PHOTOS OF THE MAD FIEND IN THE NEW JAMES BOND MOVIE "YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE!"

A WARREN MAGAZINE PDC NOVEMBER NO. 47

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND

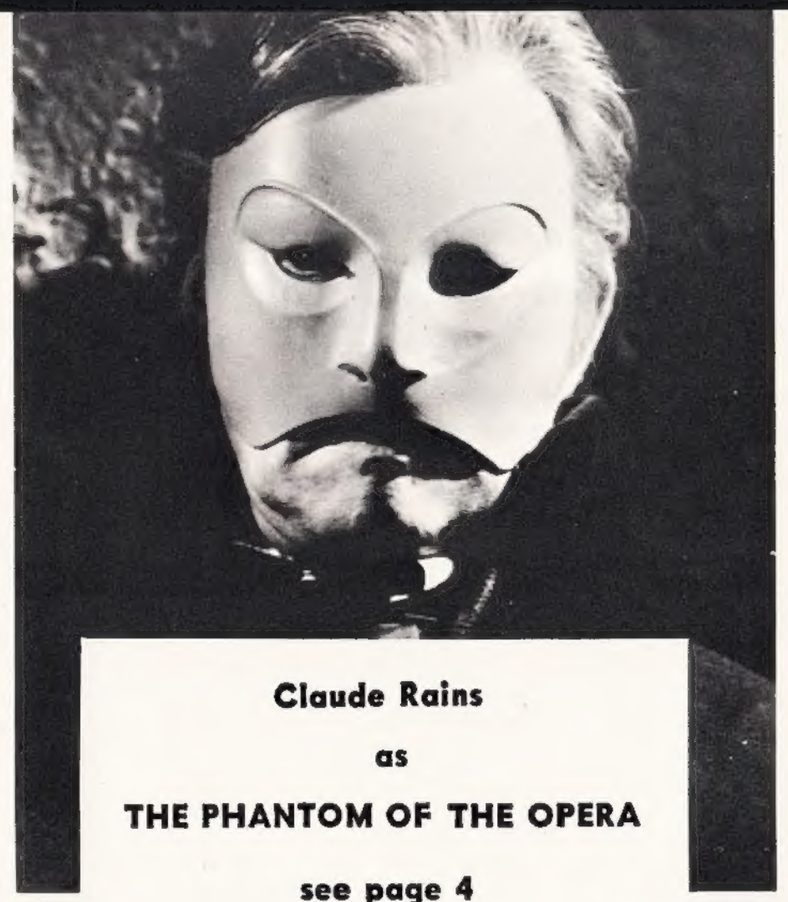
50¢

SEE: THE MIND-BENDING SPECTACLE— HORROR OF DRACULA

AGAIN HE LIVES! CLAUDE RAINS COMES BACK IN PHANTOM OF THE OPERA!

READ: ONE OF OUR MOST TERRIFYING STORIES— THE BLACK CAT STRIKES AGAIN!

THE BEAST IS BACK- EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS OF RETURN OF THE MONSTER GHIDRAH!

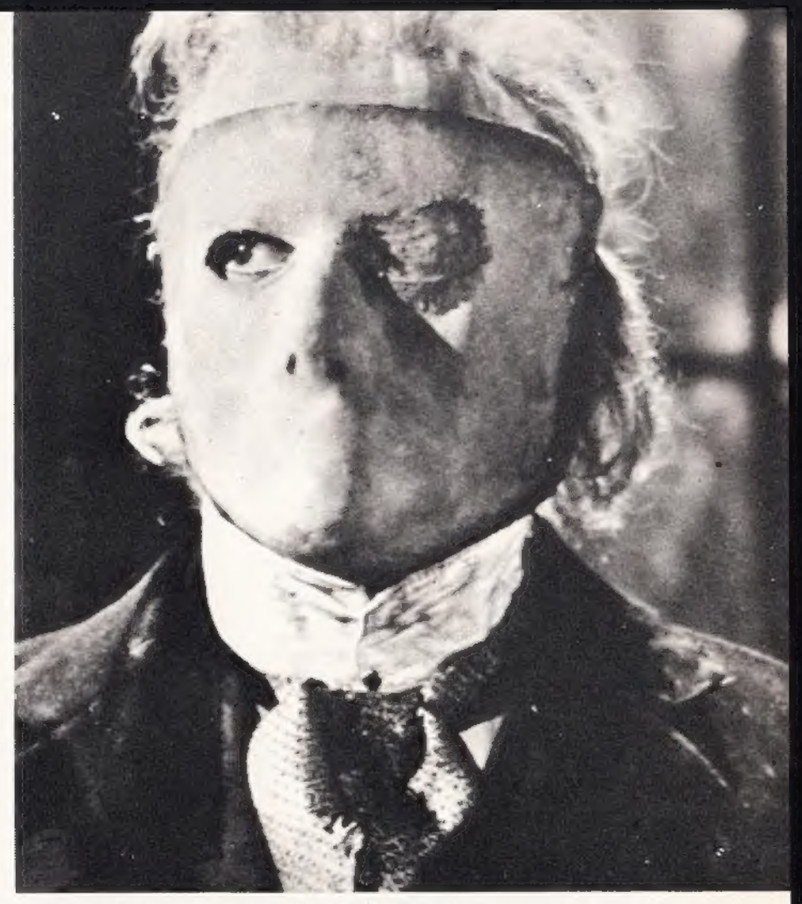


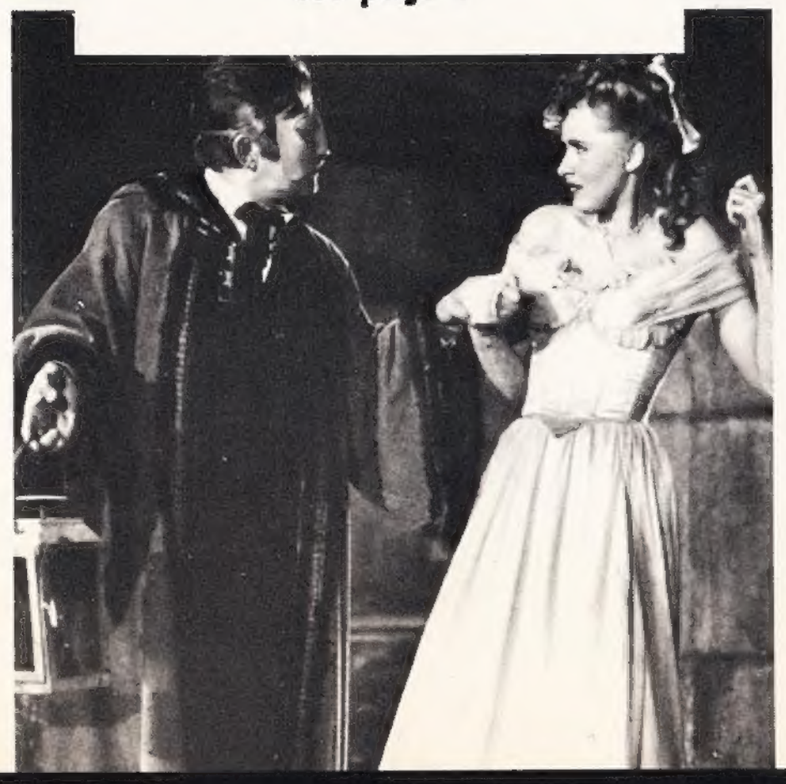
Claude Rains

as

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

see page 4





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INCORPORATING MONSTER WORLD

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ABOUT THIS ARTICLE:
Some of the pages have been altered and brought up to date and several of the fotos have been changed thruout the article but starting with the story text you will be reading unchanged "collectors' item copy" from a vintage year of 1960 (FM #10). From the vantage point of time in 1967, we can see that none of the predictions at the end of the article were correct as far as wondering who would play the Phantom for the third time. As we now know, in 1962 it was Herbert Lom.

—THE EDITOR

RETURN OF THE PHANTOM

By popular demand, many well-known monster and marvel movies have been remade. HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME; 1,000,000 YEARS B.C.; DRACULA; FRANKENSTEIN; THE MUMMY; THE UNHOLY 3, to name a few. And so it was, in 1943, that THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA was brought to life for the second time. In issue 9 we told in our pages how Lon Chaney played him—now turn back the clock 24 years to the time Claude Rains donned the Phantom Mask!

"The mad mob falls upon the madman and destroys him," we reported in FM #9 as we described the closing moments of the climax of the 1925 version. "Erik is no more. The Phantom has passed into legend."

Ah, but can you keep a good phantom down? Or a bad one?!

In the midst of World War II, the Phantom returned—a horror to take America's mind for a moment off horrors like Hitler and the Nazi Beasts.

The Incredible Shrinking Woman—she shrinks from the touch of The Phantom! Can you blame her?

the phantom strikes

The remake of Gaston Leroux' PHANTOM OF THE OPERA was in Technicolor. It starred Claude Rains as the Phantom (known as Erique Claudin) and, it is interesting to note, featured one of the screen appearances of Fritz Leiber Sr, father of the Fritz Leiber Jr whose horror novel "Conjure Wife" was recently seen as a teleplay. Lon Chaney Sr, of course, starred in the original PHANTOM OF THE OPERA; and Lon Chaney Jr. starred in WITCH WOMAN, adapted from a novel by Fritz Leiber Jr. in a magazine called Unknown Worlds. Strange are the ways of Fate!

man into phantom

Erique Claudin was not born a monster, a cruel quirk of life turned him into one. For some years he was a respectable violinist in the orchestra of the Paris Opera, until his hands became crippled by arthritis and he could no longer perform. Though he had no job, he wanted to be able to pay for his daughter Christine to continue her voice-training exercises, and so he offered for sale his life's work, a piano concerto, to a publisher.

When a Boogie Man plays the piano, what kind of music does he play? Boogie Woogie—what else!

The unscrupulous publisher stole his score.

When Claudin learns of the theft, he is rightfully infuriated. Confronting the thief, he gets into a fight with him. Accidentally, the publisher is killed—and Claudin, disfigured for life when the publisher's secretary hurls acid in his face!

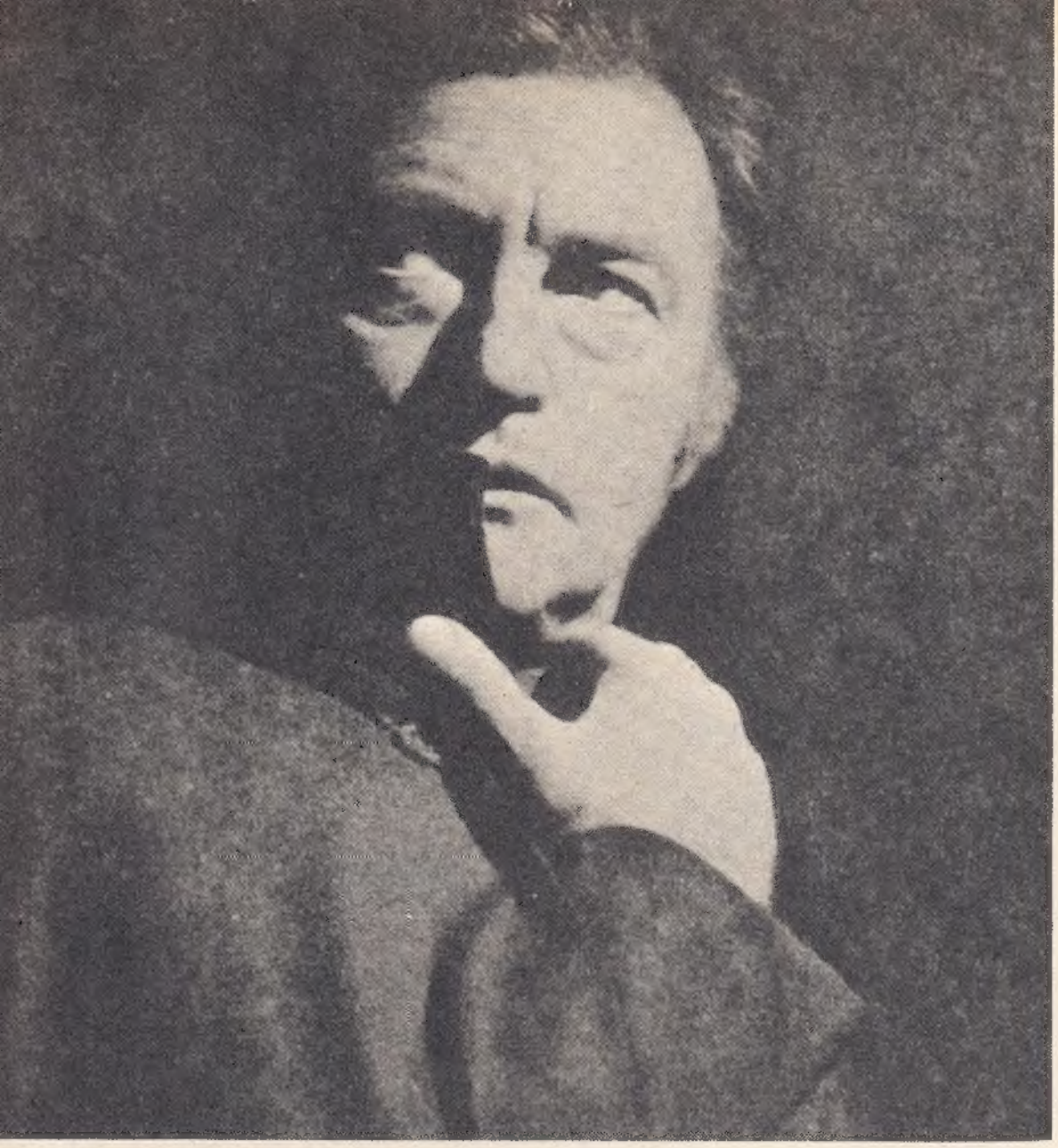
Mad with pain and seeking to escape the police, Claudin flees to the Paris Opera house and hides himself deep beneath the main floor in the maze of catacombs which honeycomb the dark acres of subterranean mystery.

Man no longer, pain and peril have turned him into a monster.

The acid has done more than eat away his face, it has corroded his brain. Erique Claudin is now mad. And the fires of his madness are fanned higher when he hears his stolen music being performed in the Opera!

Claudin sends a message to the manager of the Opera instructing him to replace his leading female singer with Christine. But the manager does not do as he says, and Claudin repeats with an enraged warning *demanding* that his daughter be given the principal singing role. When his warning is ignored, he makes good his threat.

The main chandelier, a heavy fixture of brittle glass hanging dangerously over the



Claude Rains pulls his coat collar up around his throat and prepares for a long cold night of haunting in the catacombs.

Lantern in hand, The Phantom makes light of his underground haunt, of which daughter takes dim view.

heads of the audience, sways as Claudin secretly manipulates it, and, suddenly, breaks loose from its fastening!

The great mass of glass plummets to the floor like an elevator with its cable cut!

Screams drown out the singers on the stage as innocent members of the audience are maimed and crushed in their seats, some turned in a terrifying instant to moaning bodies, others lifeless bloody corpses.

It is an awful thing the Phantom has done—and it is not the last.

the hands of erique

Like the Hands of Orlac, the hands of Erique now become killer's hands. For, when his further demands are flouted, he strangles first the chief female singer and then her maid! The musician's hands which once gently held a violin have become the violent instruments of murder.

His reason is now entirely gone. The Phantom kidnaps his own daughter. Christine is unaware that this horrible creature is her father for he hides his awful disfigurement behind a mask.

But in the picture's climax, Christine unmasks the scarfaced Claudin in a scene that brought screams as it did 18 years before. Although his make-up was nothing like Lon Chaney's, Claude Rains was a terrifying sight to behold, and not only did his daughter nearly faint, but all the faint-hearted people in the live theater audience!

end of the phantom?

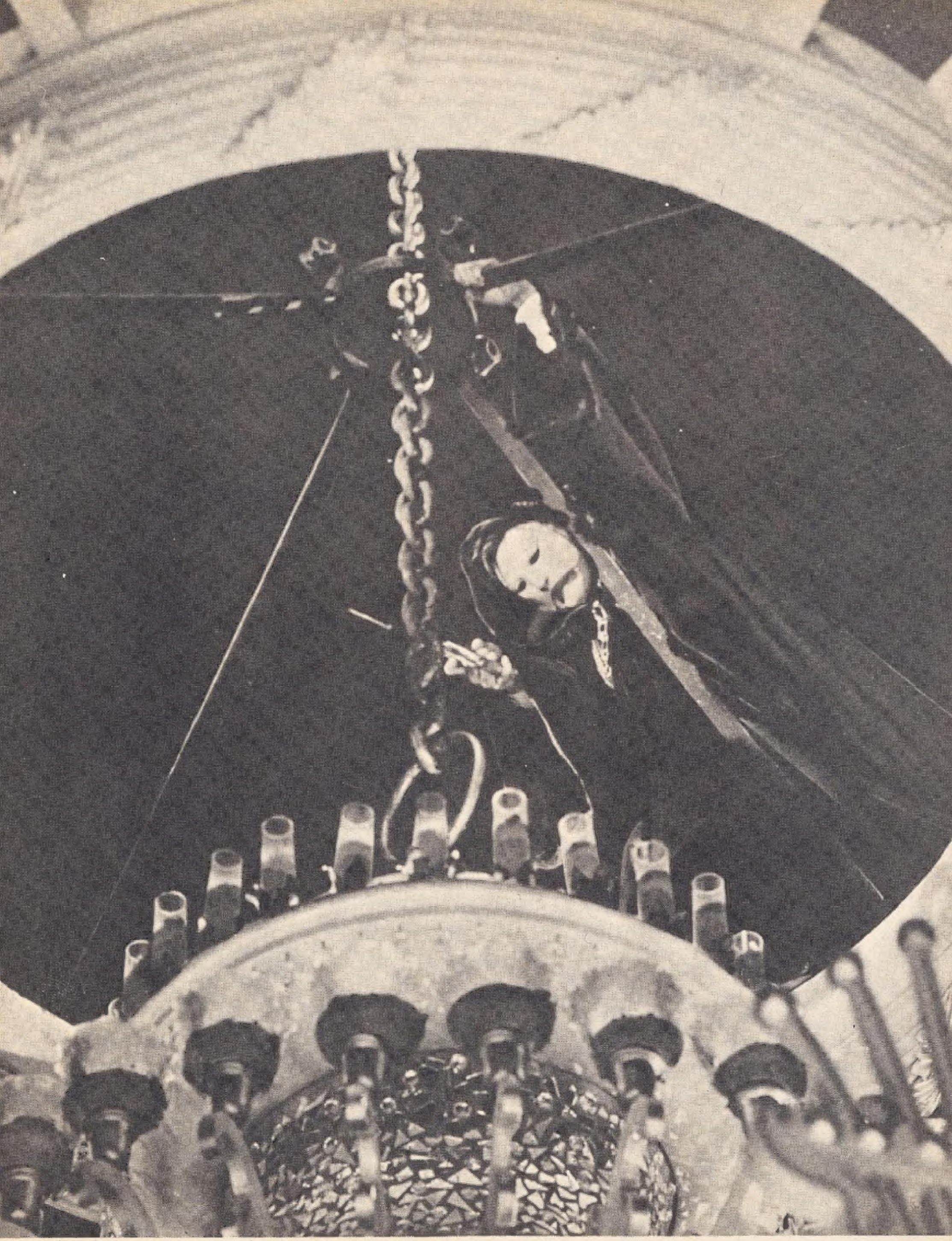
In the nick of time, Christine's lover and a detective from the French Police track the Phantom to his lair and there poor demented Erique Claudin meets his end when a shot fired by the detective causes a cave-in of the age-weakened walls of the ancient catacombs. . .

His end?

Who can say for sure.

Lon Chaney and Claude Rains "died" in the role of the Phantom, but rumor hath it that the Phantom of the Opera, crushed to the earth, will rise again in 1961, courtesy of Hammer Productions of England. Who will he be—Christopher Lee? Anton Diffring? Lon Chaney Jr?

One thing's for certain: *FAMOUS MONSTERS'* faithful readers will be among the first human beings (?) in the world to get the facts! **END**



Claude Rains as The Phantom in "The Man Who Sawed Too Much."

The Invisible Man has gone to The Invisible World.

FILMONSTERDOM MOURNS THE DEATH OF CLAUDE RAINS

THE RAINS LAST FRIGHT

called to the hall of fame

LIFE LEFT Claude Rains on the 30th of May. Prince Sirki, the Grim Reaper, appeared before him in his 77th year and bid him follow Him from his hospital bed to Death's domain.

Bela Lugosi—DRACULA.

Lon Chaney Sr.—THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.

Claude Rains—THE INVISIBLE MAN.

Each of filmonsterdom's greats has been greatest in one single role with which his name is synonymous ever afterward. Claude Rains will always be remembered as the Invisible Man.

Alright, you fools! cried Griffin. *You've brought it on yourselves. Everything would have come right if you'd only left me alone. You've driven me near madness with your peering thru the keyholes and gaping thru the curtains, and now . . . you'll suffer for it!*

You're crazy to know who I am, aren't you? Alright . . . I'll show you!

Griffin, the Invisible Man, pulls off his artificial nose. *There's a souvenir for you!*

Removes his glasses. *And one for you!*

Unwraps the bandages around his head. *I'll show you who I am—and what I am!* (Laughs.)

you? Alright . . . I'll show yyyyyyyoooooooou!

Griffin, the Invisible Man, pulls off his artificial nose. *There's a souvenir for you!*

Removes his glasses. *And one for you!*

Unwraps the bandages around his head. *I'll show you who I am—and what I am!* (Laughs.)

When Claude Rains raised his silver-headed cane against The Wolf Man.

the unseen menace

The incredible unveiling continues. One man cries: *Look! He's all eaten away!*

Griffin continues: *It's easy—if you're clever: a few chemicals mixed together, that's all, and flesh & blood & bones just fade away . . .*

Bottle on table raises up apparently by itself.

A little of this injected under the skin of the arm every day for a month and — Invisible Man can rule the world! Nobody will see him come, nobody will see him go. He can hear every secret, he can rob . . . and wreck . . . and kill.

secret of the invisible man

Later, Griffin appears in the study of his friend Kemp. He tells him: "I began 5 years ago in secret, working all night, every night, right into the dawn. A thousand experiments . . . a thousand failures. And then—at last—the great, wonderful day."

Kemp interrupts: "It's ghastly!"

Ignoring the criticism as the unheard, Griffin continues: "The great, wonderful day. The last little mixture of drugs. I couldn't stay here any longer, Kemp. I couldn't let you see me slowly fading away, so I packed up and went to a little village for secrecy and quiet to finish the experiment and complete the antidote.

Kemp: "By why—why do it, Griffith?"

"Just a scientific experiment at first—that's all. To do something no other man in the world had done. But—there's more to it than that, Kemp. I know now. It came to me suddenly. The drugs I took seemed to light up my brain!"

Rains of terror

Griffin continued: "I must have a partner, Kemp—a visible partner—to help me in the little things. You're my partner, Kemp"—said in the most chilling offhand way.

"We'll begin with a reign of terror—a few murders here & there—murders of great men, murders of little men—just to show we make no distinction. We might even wreck a train or two. Just these fingers around a signalman's throat . . ."

Academy Award

Claude Rains never got an Oscar, tho he came close several times. I would have given him one for this sequence of hair-raising drama in THE INVISIBLE MAN when his sweetheart Flora (Gloria Stuart) tried to reason with his disintegrating brain:

Flora: "Thank God you're home, Jack."

Griffin: "I would have come to you at once, Flora—but for this. How beautiful you look! Hunh . . . that funny little hat—I always liked it." Pauses; notes: "You've been crying!"

Flora, tearfully: "I want to help you. Why did you do this, Jack?"

Griffin: "For *you,* Flora."

"For me?"

"Yes—for you, my darling. I wanted to do something tremendous . . . to do what men of science have dreamt of since the world began. To gain wealth & fame & honor; to write my name above the greatest scientists of all time. I was poor—so pitifully poor—I had nothing to offer you, Flora. I was just a poor struggling chemist."

Rains' voice begins to quiver, to rise with emotion. "I shall come back to you, Flora, very soon now. The secret of invisibility lies there, in my books. I shall work in Kemp's laboratory until I find a way back—there *is* a way back, Flora! And then I shall come to

Larry Talbot (Lon Chaney Jr.) menaced the late Claude Rains in 1941 in the film which Universal Pictures originally planned to release as DESTINY.

The Face Behind the Mask: as Erique Claudin, THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.

you. I shall offer my secret to the world, with all its terrible power. The nations of the world will bid for it—thousands, millions! The nation that wins my secret can *sweep* the world with invisible armies!"

Flora tries to calm him. "Jack! I want you to let my father help you. You know how clever he is. He'll work with you, day & night, until you find that second secret, the one that will bring you back to me."

Rains scoffs. "Your father! Clever? Ha! You think he can help *me*? He's got the brain of a tapeworm—a maggot—beside mine. Don't you see what it means? Power! Power to rule. to make the world *grovel* at my feet!"

Grovel. The way Rains said it, distorting the soundtrack with the power of his pronunciation . . . the pure, wonderful, incredible feeling with which he invested the world . . . the way it sounded, like gravel dragged over ground glass by a vulture's claw . . . Grovel! —he made an unforgettable motion picture moment out of the force, fervor, fever, fanaticism with which he delivered the single word.

frightened to death

Flora tries desperately to reason with Griffin. "Jack! Listen to me! Listen! My father found a note in your room. He knows something about monocaine even you don't know: it alters you . . . changes you . . . makes you feel—differently. Father believes the power of this will go if you know what you're fighting. He can help you. Oh, come and stay with us—let's fight this thing out together!" But her plea falls on ears both invisible and—deaf. Rains continues to rage: "*Power,* I said. Power to walk into the gold vaults of the nations, into the secrets of kings, into the Holy of Holies! *Power* to send multitudes running squealing in terror . . ."

Squealing in terror—another dramatic line delivered with dynamic force.

". . . at the touch of my little invisible finger."

He faces the Heavens.

"The Moon's frightened of me, frightened to death! The whole *world's* frightened to death!"

Off screen a dog howls, concluding one of the most magnetic scenes ever captured on film.

A triumph for Rains.

. . . And at the end of the picture, just before he finally became visible in death, he was given one of the classic lines to utter, a cliche to be heard in every other monster, horror & science movie of the 30s (and completely contrary to the spirit of HGWells' work): "I meddled in things man must leave alone."

James Whale, of FRANKENSTEIN fame, insisted on Rains for the part and directed him.

more weird roles

The parts that followed for Rains—in CRIME WITHOUT PASSION, THE MAN WHO RECLAIMED HIS HEAD, THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD and THE CLAIRVOYANT —were not *exactly* horror roles but there was something out of the ordinary about each of them.

I am a monster, he said in CRIME WITHOUT PASSION to Margo, the actress who some years later was to portray the centuries-old woman of Shangri-La who attempted to leave the Tibetan Utopia with the man she loved and aged like "She" and lost her life beyond the LOST HORIZON. *I am a monster,* said Rains; *I have to take women apart . . . to see what makes them tick.* A telling performance was Rains' as a brilliant lawyer with a twisted brain in CRIME WITHOUT PASSION.

Prof. Challenger's greatest challenge: Claude Rains met up with this prehistoric dragon in THE LOST WORLD (1960).

In THE MAN WHO RECLAIMED HIS HEAD, Rains fought munitions makers who, behind the scenes, were setting the nations of the world at each other's throats, manipulating wars so that profits could be made from the sale of more guns, tanks, planes, bombs . . . Rains considered that Lionel Atwill had, in effect, stolen his brains—his head—and so Rains *reclaimed* his head from Atwill's shoulders . . . and scared the audience to death by carrying around a sinister hatbox thruout the picture. Everyone was always afraid he was going to open that box!

Charles Dickens wrote, but never finished, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood". When it was completed as a screenplay, Claude Rains played the doomed Jasper, singer with a hypnotic voice that enslaved its listeners, at the same time his own body & mind were enslaved by a dreaded demon—opium!

London-born, in 1935, Rains returned to the metropolis of his birth to star in THE CLAIRVOYANT, adapted from the novel of the same name. With him as his co-star was Ann Darrow (the bride of Kong)—otherwise known as Fay Wray! In this interesting picture Rains put on a fake mind-reading act but came to realize that he could indeed foretell the future! With disastrous results. Maurice Elvey, who 5 years earlier had played the President of the Federated Atlantic States in HIGH TREASON, the prophetic picture that looked 10 years into the future, directed Rains in this somewhat fantastic film that looked into the future in a different fashion. A journalist of the time (1935) reported of Rains that, "He is sturdily built and has a fine head topped by thick black hair which has a habit of falling forwards. He has very penetrating, mysterious brown eyes and a dynamic voice, which is just as attractive in real life as on the talking screen. His powerful hands are continually opening & closing in a nervous gesture when he talks, and when he gets particularly excited, one eyebrow shoots up."

the real Rains

The late star was married *six* times, once more than Bela Lugosi. One marriage—to a concert pianist & professor of music, Agi Jambor, lasted only 6 months. He was very devoted to his last wife, Rosemary Clark Schrode, writer & painter, who preceeded him in death.

Rains was only 5'6" tall but like Napoleon, another small man, towered because of his powerful personality.

Born on 10 November 1889, he made his stage debut *six* years later in *Sweet Nell of Old Drury* in a London theater. He became a call-boy at His Majesty's Theatre; later, stage prompter; finally was promoted to the important post of assistant stage manager, a position he maintained for 7 years. At the age of 16 he played his first really important part on the stage in *The Gods of the Mountains*. The title was to prove prophetic, for on the Olympian heights of horror greats, Rains was to become a name to conjure with along with Chaney, Karloff, Lugosi, Lorre and Lee.

His New York stage roles ranged from important parts in *The Bluebird* and *Androcles and the Lion* to *The Devil's Disciple* and *Darkness at Noon.*

back from hell

Like millions of other men, Claude Rains fought in World War I. When war broke out in 1914 he was in America and hastily returned to England where he enlisted as a private.

He spent over 3 years on the Western Front

When Sir John (Mr. Rains) tied Lon Jr. to a chair to protect him from himself when he turned into THE WOLF MAN.

in France.

And once, when a shell exploded and hurled a herd of sandbags thru the air, they landed on *Capt.* Rains and almost buried him alive in a trench.

But he survived and returned to the Broadway stage where he scored further successes in such plays as *Miracle at Verdun, He, The Moon in the Yellow River* and *The Good Earth.*

a forgotten film

There are certain pictures, either outright fantasies or with some fantastic element to them, that you have to hunt far & wide to find anyone who ever saw them. Or ever remembers even having heard of them. Seldom if ever revived; few if any stills, pressbooks or posters on them seeming to have survived; like burned books living on only in the minds of the memory-people in FAHRENHEIT 451, these motion pictures cling precariously to life. Such titles as: THE MYSTERY OF LIFE . . . TURN BACK THE CLOCK . . . LIFE RETURNS . . . SIX HOURS TO LIVE . . . SUPERNATURAL . . . ONCE IN A NEW MOON . . . IT'S GREAT TO BE ALIVE . . . KRAKATIT . . . MEN MUST FIGHT . . . ONE GLORIOUS DAY . . . FORGOTTEN COMMANDMENTS . . . and STRANGE HOLIDAY.

One of these Forgotten Films starred Claude Rains.

Arch Oboler wrote it, the Oboler who scripted FIVE, BWANA DEVIL and THE BUBBLE.

It was STRANGE HOLIDAY, a 1946 film made before the outcome of World War II had been decided. Claude Rains went on a little fishing trip in upstate New York and when he came back he found his home town strangely—sinisterly—changed. The Nazis had taken over and everyday life for an American was now horror of the worst sort: enslavement for a nation of men with a tradition of freedom.

farewell to a master

The night of the day we had all heard the word that Claude Rains had died, I was with Ray Bradbury, Robert Bloch and Fritz Lang (QUEEN OF BLOOD) Harrington film in which Bela Lugosi is included in one brief coffin scene. We were all depressed by Rains' death. I asked Lang if he had ever directed him but he had not. "But I know he was a great talent," he said. "Amen to that," said Robert Bloch. "One of the greatest. He brought the undeniable stamp of authority to every role he played. He can never be replaced." And on June 1st, Ray Bradbury wrote this Open Letter for readers of *FM:*

To say that Claude Rains influenced a whole generation of fantasy fans, or just plain lovers of fine acting, would be stating the obvious. I think I saw some of his films as many as 7 or 8 times. His portrayal of THE INVISIBLE MAN when I was 13 years old remains a splendid memory and, in fact, a film that can hold its own today.

I was touched and moved by the fact that on the night of his death, Claude Rains was appearing as the ventriloquist in my AND SO DIED RIABOUCHINSKA on television, for the Alfred Hitchcock Presents show.

It is a good thing to know that Mr. Rains will be around, one way or another, for the rest of our lives.

A few days later Alex Gordon, the producer, told me of the time he met Rains while Rains was making THE LOST WORLD. "A marvelous actor, and I had hoped to bring him out of semi-retirement for a role in my next picture." So, had he lived, we might have seen Claude Rains in MONSTER IN MY BLOOD.

the curtain falls...

. . . But, as Ray Bradbury pointed out, there'll always be curtain calls for Claude Rains. A short while after his death an extraordinary film played in Los Angeles: CASABLANCA. It was shocking to realize that practically everyone in it was dead. But, phoenix-like, risen from the grave thru the miracle of the motion picture, were:

Humphrey Bogart—who starred in THE RETURN OF DR. X.

Peter Lorre—MAD LOVE, THE BEAST WITH 5 FINGERS, M, an endless list.

Sydney Greenstreet—THE MALTESE FALCON, and the man who should have starred in a remake of 7 FOOTPRINTS TO SATAN.

Conrad Veidt—THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI, THE MAN WHO LAUGHS, F.P.1, JANUS-FACED.

Ingrid Bergman—DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE (Tracy version), SPELLBOUND. (Of course Ingrid Bergman is alive & well somewhere in Europe.)

And CLAUDE RAINS, a bantam cock of a crooked police inspector in one of his most slick, suave, sophisticated, debonair, rascally & disarming roles.

Two daughters survive him.

Claude Rains himself leaves us with a profound thought which he found comforting after the loss of his last wife. He quoted this, in his own handwriting, to two young *FM* fans who share it with us, one of the last observations by our departed hero:

"I wept because I had no shoes
Until I saw a man who had no FEET"

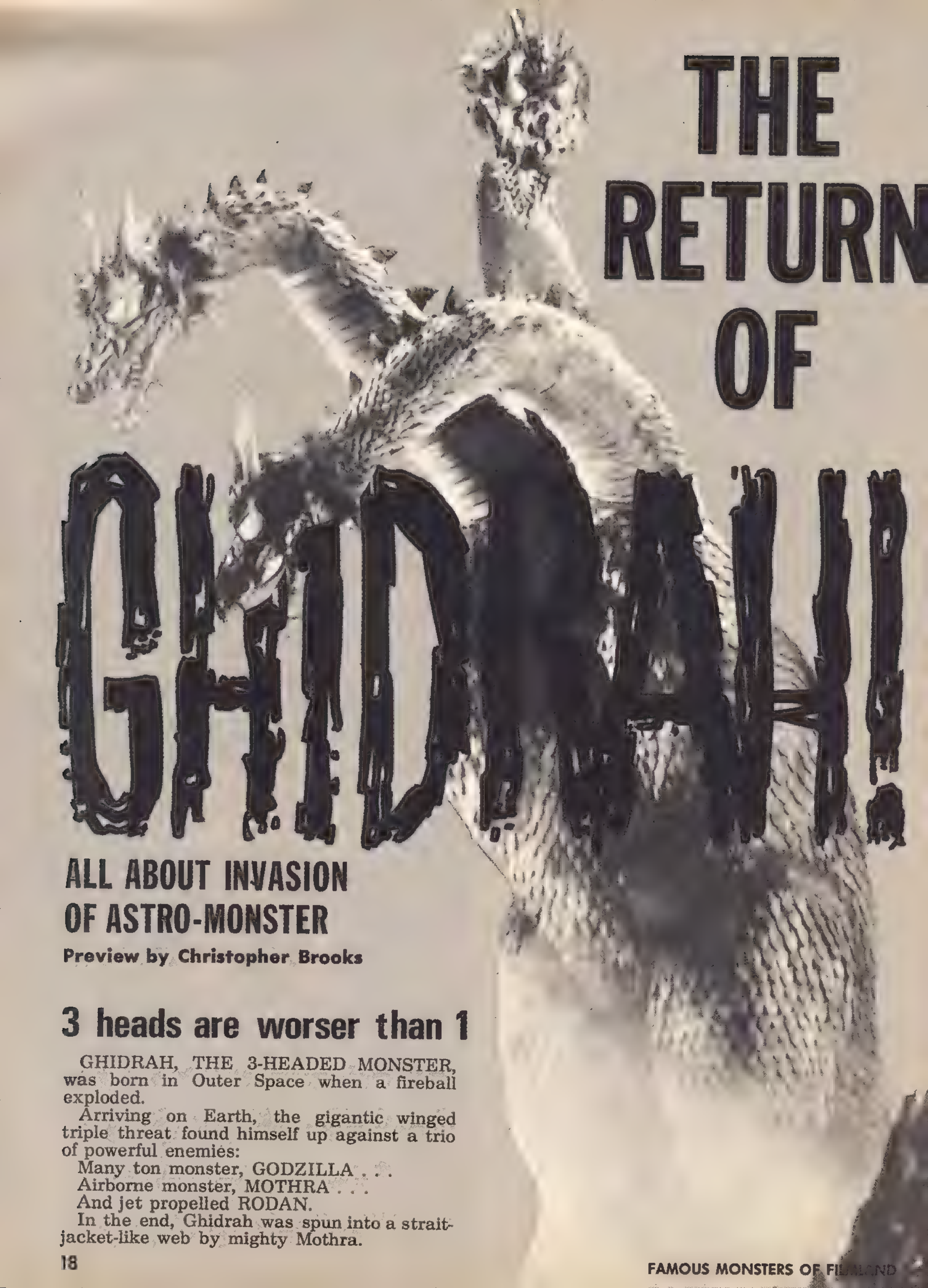
He is telling us things could be worse. He might have been killed in the First World War. He might never have made any pictures (and he made over 30) at all.

Au revoir but not goodby, Claude Rains. In our minds' eyes you will always be visible.

END

HGWells' INVISIBLE MAN, the masterpiece performance that made him world-famous.

One of his last roles: BATTLE OF THE WORLDS. R.I.P., Claude Rains.



ALL ABOUT INVASION OF ASTRO-MONSTER

Preview by Christopher Brooks

3 heads are worser than 1

GHIDRAH, THE 3-HEADED MONSTER, was born in Outer Space when a fireball exploded.

Arriving on Earth, the gigantic winged triple threat found himself up against a trio of powerful enemies:

Many ton monster, GODZILLA . . .

Airborne monster, MOTHRA . . .

And jet propelled RODAN.

In the end, Ghidrah was spun into a strait-jacket-like web by mighty Mothra.

(Fahrenheit 4451—the temperature at which monsters burn!)

Some citizens of Planet X run for safety as Godzilla & Ghidrah to fire each other.

Then the other two beasts flung him over a cliff.

Embarrassed by his defeat by the earth monsters, Ghidrah tucked his tail under his torso and flew back into the black spaces from which he came. Any other monster could neither fly nor breathe there, due to the lack of air in the interplanetary void. By all rights of reason Ghidrah should be null & void. However, in order to enjoy his further adventures, we tactfully avoid asking how Ghidrah could exist under such fatal circumstances, and suddenly he is back among us and—

In the new film, INVASION OF ASTRO-MONSTER, Ghidrah is up against Godzilla & Rodan.

And a new monster, Nickadams. (Oops! —that should be Nick Adams, American hero last seen fighting the Japanese Furankenshutain!)

x marks the space

As the new film opens, a strange planet from outer space sails into our solar systems. Astronomers can scarcely help notice it in the night skies and after a consultation with various scientists the heavenly (?) body is named Planet X.

From Planet X come inhabitants (beings) who make a most unusual request:

"We would like," they say in effect, "to float a loan."

Float a loan—?

Of *WHAT?*

Incredible as it seems, they'd like to borrow what in fact the Japanese have been trying to get rid of for picture after picture. In fact, they're not too sure they want them back:

Godzilla & Rodan!

It seems Planet X is currently being plaqued by triple-headed Ghidrah with his flame-throwing throats and general destructive tendencies. "We feel," explain the representatives of X, "that this gigantic reptile can only be destroyed if you generously grant our wish and the earth monsters agree to assist in whatever way they can."

asleep in the deep

In what is described as "an absolutely amazing scene of cinematic trickery", Godzilla & Rodan are both put to sleep with a super

sedative.

Then mighty flying saucers radiate tractor beams which encase the sleeping beauties in titanic glass-like cocoons.

And transport Godzilla & Rodan in transparent shells into the depths of space.

Thru the solar system to its outer limits.

Destination: Planet X.

But!

x marks the double-cross

After the Xites acquire the use of Godzilla & Rodan and some scientists from Earth arrive in their own spaceship, it is learned that the leaders of X are double-crossers!

They only want our wonderful monsters in order to *reinforce* the power of Ghidrah, who is fighting *for* them, not against them.

A war is waged on the surface of Planet X and the unhappy inhabitants are forced to seek subterranean safety.

Our monsters do not cooperate with Ghidrah, they are faithful to the planet of their birth and fight this interplanetary interloper.

The battle gets out of hand and extends to Earth.

by the rockets' red glare

It is a real space opera in the tradition of *Planet Stories* of yore (not to overlook gore) and there are explosions galore on the grand scale as—

Bombs burst . . .!

Rays flash . . .!

Saucers & Spaceships clash . . . !

Interplanetary vehicles crash . . . !

In the mighty tradition of THE MYSTERIANS and other space battle pix, the screen turns all the colors of the rainbow as the aliens vs. the earthians attempt to blow each other out of the solar system.

It's another spectacular array of special effects from the trick-makers of Toho Films, with the Japanese Rock Hudson (Pebble Beach? Hero Shima?) and directed by that veteran filmmaker of monsteramas, Ishiro Honda (and his electronic monstercycle).

a feast of beasts

If you can't get enough of monsters, INVASION OF ASTRO-BEAST promises triple your money's worth in the sight of 3-headed Ghrdrah alone, plus the granddaddy of all Japanese monsters, Godzilla, now something like 1,000,011 years old (first seen on the screen in '56), and Mothra, who has been described by Flipper as "the greatest flapper since Clara Bow or Marilyn Monroe."

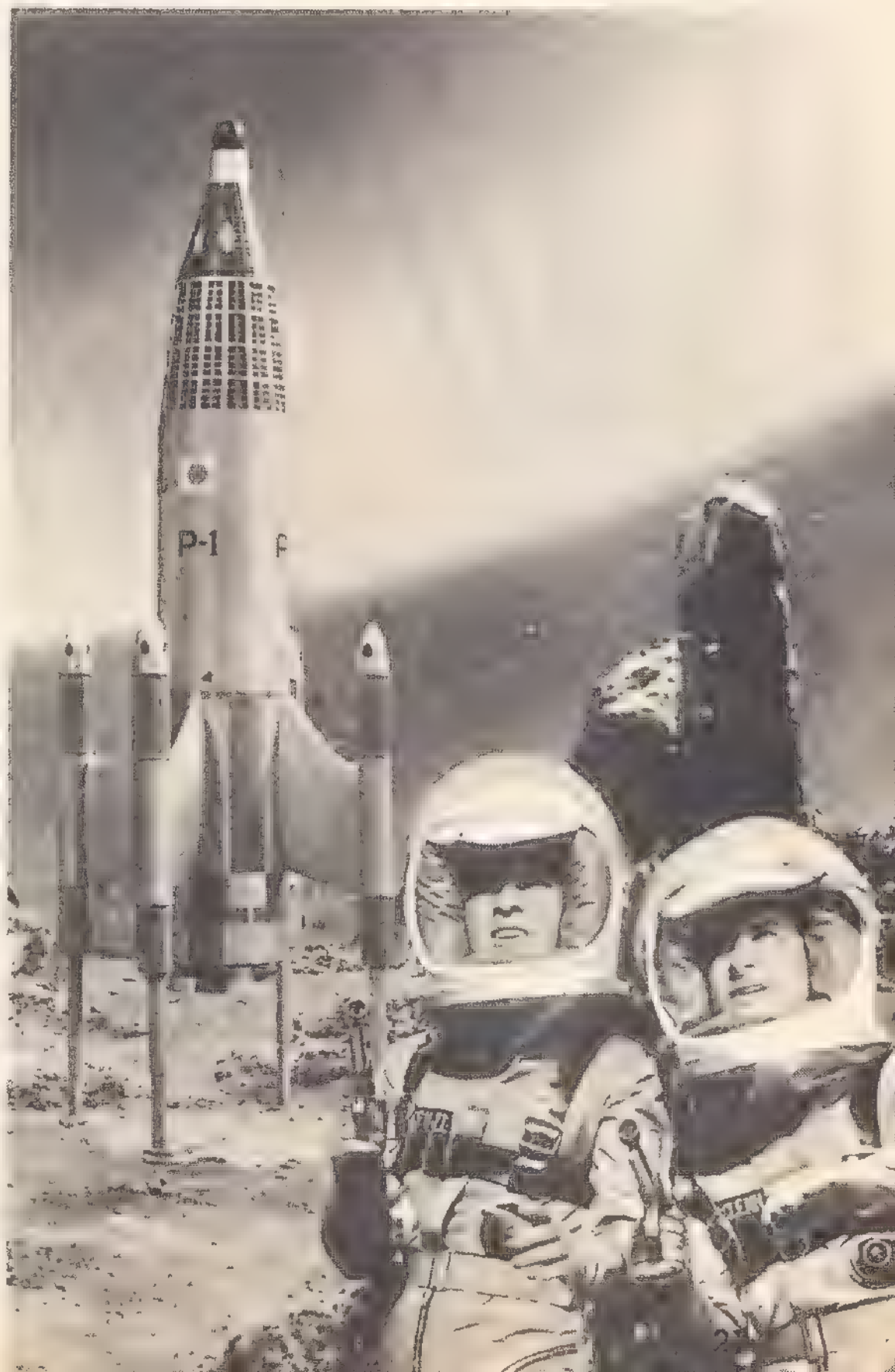
Warning: just don't sit in the front row when you see INVASION OF ASTRO-MONSTER or you might get your eyebrows singed by Ghidrah.

Wonder when his beast friend is going to tell him he has . . . baaaad breath?

THE END

Being taken for a ride to another world, two giants of Japanese monsterism.

American actor Adams in Nick of time reaches Planet X with Japanese partner.



Mr. Spock? Mr. Spook? No, Master Menace Mr. Spectre! Read all about him in this new JAMES BOND article.

JAMES BOND MEETS SPECTRE FIEND NUMBER ONE

you only die twice

You thought actor Donald Pleasence was dead, perhaps?

You say you saw him die at the end of FANTASTIC VOYAGE when he was swallowed alive inside the miniaturized bloodstream ship when one of the gigantic polymorphonucleated leucocytes globbed him?

Ah, but it's hard to keep a bad man down! He was also a bodysnatcher named Hare in MANIA, THE FLESH & THE FIENDS and THE FIENDISH GHOULS (no, not 3 different pictures—3 different names for one & the same film!)

He's even played Satan on the screen!

But now he's to be seen in what he considers to be his most villainous role: *Spectre's* top agent of evil in the latest James Bond thriller, YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE.

007 learns latest Japanese methods of bringing villains to their knees—or even their ends.

Batters up! But they don't seem to be interested in killing the umpire—instead, each other!

in the presence of unpleance

"I think I make a worthy opponent for 007," Mr. Pleasence is quoted as saying. "In fact, my character is kind of a highlight in a number of lowlife characterizations."

Like Peter Lorre before him in his famous role in MAD LOVE, Donald Pleasence sacrificed his hair for horror. On Yul Brynner a nice shiny head of skin makes women faint with rapture but a bald Donald Pleasence?—just someone to snarl at and capture.

Of course The Scar—all horrible 7" of it—helps Pleasence's unpleasant appearance, starting as it does an inch above his right eye and running in a ragged line down his cheek and below his mouth. But, oddly enough, Pleasance doesn't consider the make-up that important to the characterization. He says something that Lon Chaney Sr. might well have said: "Evil comes from within."

But presentday producers want to *show* evil to their audiences, hence the unusual make-up. It almost cost Pleasance a friend however. "This friend of mine was convinced I designed the make-up just to rib him because he, you see, doesn't have any hair—and he does have a long scar!

"I thought he'd decided to forgive & forget recently when he gave me a present of some tropical fish but when I went to feed them I found out they were piranhas!"

Piranhas, in case you are not familiar with the name, are tiny tropical fish with teeth like sharks and appetites like whales. In the picture, Ernst Stavros Blofeld (that's Pleasance) keeps a tankful of piranhas as pets "Before taking the part I read the script twice," he confided to *FM,* "to make sure I didn't get eaten by the piranhas in my tank."

"And when you found out that you did not have to share a tank with these gruesome little snappers, how did you feel, Mr. Pleasence?"

"Tankful."

007 is alive and -- well, in Japan

In the opening of YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE James Bond (Sean Connery) boards a Royal Navy submarine operating in Eastern waters. In a secret meeting with "M" (Bernard Lee) he learns that America & Russia are on the verge of World War III because the international crime syndicate, Spectre, is engaged in its greatest villainy ever: intercepting & capturing American & Russian space capsules in orbit. It is this meeting which sets James Bond on his path to inevitable face to face conflict with the arch-criminal Blofeld.

"M" explains to 007: "It is your job, within the next 10 days, to find out who is launching the interceptor rockets—and from where—before America puts its next Gemini spacecraft into orbit."

Blofeld (Donald Pleasence) about to blow the 007 out of Bond!

Bond is ejected from the sub via torpedo tube and, as night falls, swims ashore near Tokyo.

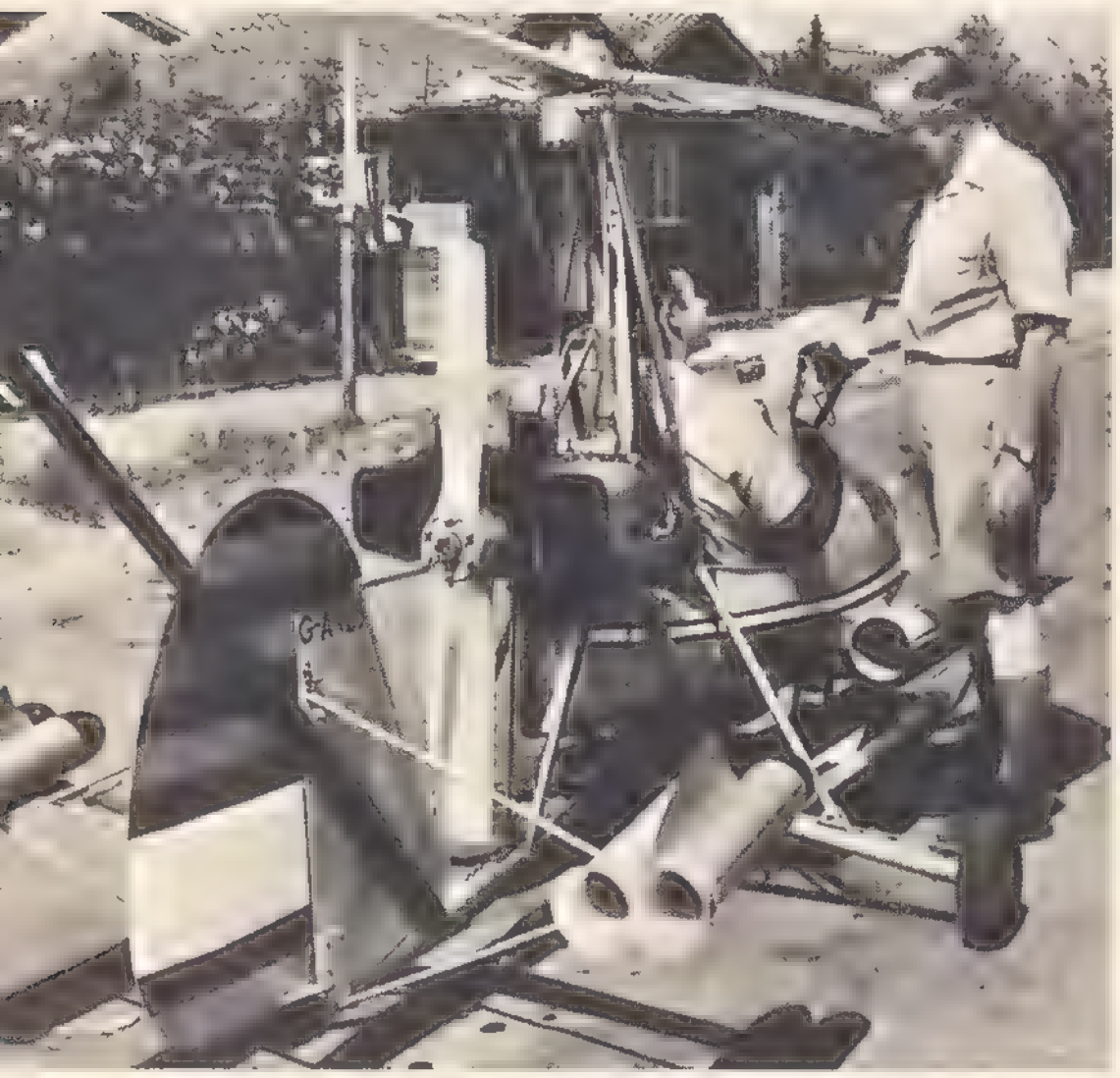
Next day Bond meets the secretary of the head of the Japanese Secret Service who takes him to his contact in Tokyo but midway thru their talk Henderson is assassinated. Bond, however, catches the killer, strangles him, changes clothes with the dead man and then, pretending to be wounded, staggers to the waiting car. Unrecognized, he is driven to the skyscraper headquarters of a chemical corporation.

Inside the building Bond kills the driver of the sedan and is cracking the safe when the alarm goes off. Only Aki (the Secret Service secretary) saves him from the pursuing guards when Bond happily finds her outside the building with the engine of her sports car running.

you can't be too careful

Next day Bond returns to the skyscraper in disguise. But spy equipment built into the desk of Osato, the man he interviews, gives away the fact that he has a gun inside his coat. As soon as he leaves the room, Osato orders: "Kill that man!"

But once again Aki and her auto come to Bond's rescue: as gunmen are about to shoot down 007, Aki drives between them, shielding Bond. A dramatic car chase in the open country follows. Aki radios for help. As her car tries to outrace a black sedan full of determined killers, a helicopter from headquarters appears overhead *trailing a gigantic magnet!* The gunmen's car is captured like a butterfly in a net, carried across Tokyo, then, with a flick of a de-magnetizing switch,



"He flies thru the air with the greatest of breeze, The daring young Bond on the flying 'Trip-Ease'!"

the carload of criminals is dropped in the bay!

Free once more, Bond & Aki head for docks in the city of Kobe to investigate a mystery vessel. There they are suddenly attacked by Spectre henchmen! Aki escapes but Bond is captured and knocked unconscious.

of superhuman bondage

007 comes to and finds his wrists & ankles tied. These bonds he *talks* his way out of. As the picture progresses, he gets in one scrape & squeeze after another. When a lipstick bomb (!) disables an airplane he's on, a parachute-less Bond is left to his doom . . . but after a desperate struggle manages to pull the plane out of its spin and land safely.

Another time he's flying over an island in a little autogiro when 4 black helicopters suddenly swoop out of the sky, boxing him in and attacking with deadly volleys of machinegun fire.

Poison drips down a thread from a hole in the roof and almost touches its target—Bond's open mouth as he lies asleep.

He encounters a cave of poisonous vapors—which he escapes by swimming underwater to safety.

rocket to the morgue

When a Russian spaceship disappears, the Russians believe it has been destroyed in orbit by an American intruder rocket and the

Are you kitten!? The head of Spectre has a kind heart???

threat of war becomes more imminent. Actually the intruder ship (a craft created by Spectre) has "kidnapped" the Russian capsule in its nose-cone "jaws" and taken it to a disguised base in a volcano. The entire interior of the crater is the space HQs of Spectre, complete with monorail, heliport and super-modern rocket launching control room. It is here that the climax of the picture is played out.

Bond meets Blofeld and, face to face with the fiend, fights for his life and the fate of the world.

The Spectre interceptor is closing in on the orbiting American *Gemini,* its nose-cone open and ready to capture the U.S. capsule when Bond finally manages to activate the Exploder Button in the Spectre control room and destroy the rocket in space.

With his volcano headquarters in chaos, Blofeld makes one final desperate move. In the monorail he rushes to a secret panel in the cave wall and pulls a lever which sets off a series of gigantic explosions thruout the main area of the crater and the surrounding tunnels.

In one of the most titanic eruptions since GOLD, MAGNETIC MONSTER and 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA, the volcano blows its top like the legendary Krakatoa.

It is The End.

But surely not of James Bond?

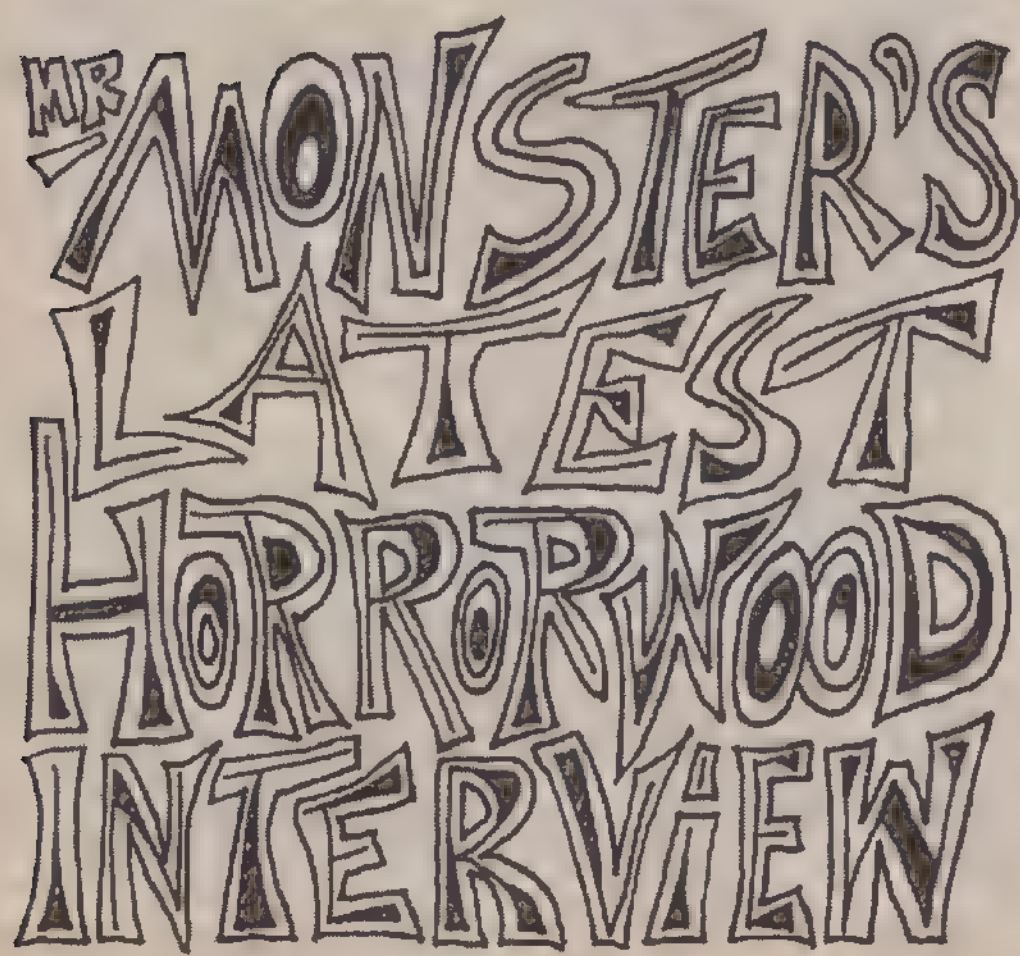
And perhaps not of the Beastly Blofeld either! END

Karloff meets his "double" (Manuel Weltman) at Press Party in Our King's Honor at Hollywood's famous rendezvous for visiting Monster Royalty. This is one of the most recent candid fotos of Boris Karloff in the world.

KARLOFF IN THE MAGIC CASTLE

BY PAUL LINDEN

PART 2: CONCLUSION



just before intermission

WHAT you may have missed.

OR—to refresh your memory.

Briefly, in issue #46 . . . I told how in April a London to Los Angeles flight was made by the King of Fright himself. In what was billed as "his first major press party in 40 years," Boris Karloff appeared at the world-famous Magic Castle in Hollywood in conjunction with Decca Records' release of his unique monster album, *An Evening with Boris Karloff & His Friends.*

Learned during the exciting evening were such interesting facts as:

The title of his next picture—BEFORE I DIE.

The title behind the title of a mystery title, BIMI: BIMI was the name of the full length version of Karloff's early serial, KING OF THE WILD.

What he got paid for his first movie job: $5 a day!

Being made up for his vampiric role as The Wurdalak in BLACK SABBATH. (Foto by Gianni Assenza.)

And a new mystery was born: THE GREEN GHOST. Karloff mentioned a couple of times during his visit to the Castle that he appeared in such a picture. But experts such as Alex Gordon, Bob Bloch, even *FM's* editor, were baffled.

Now go on with the story . . .

about bela—

"Mr. Karloff," a reporter asked, "what could you tell us about Bela Lugosi? Were you good friends?"

"No, we really didn't socialize. You see, our lives, our tastes, were quite different. Ours was simply a professional relationship. But I have warm recollections of him as a fine actor and a great technician. And I'll tell you a story on myself, about Bela:

"It was during the making of SON OF FRANKENSTEIN, the 3d & lastime I played the monster." (Purists insist that he played the role 4 times but I was interested to note —and record for posterity—that the Master himself did not refer to his brief resurrection of the Monster on TV in the *Route 66* segment.) "Bela was a big man, and I was supposed to pick him up and carry him. I put one wrist beneath his knees, the other behind his neck—and lifted.

"I hadn't lifted a pound!"

Eyebrows lifted and a gale of laughter rose at this anecdote.

Karloff continued. "I met Lon Chaney Sr. He did *all* his own make-up, you know—designed & executed it. A fine actor. I think it a dead certainty I wouldn't be sitting here now if Chaney had lived and done FRANKENSTEIN.

"I had made GRAFT at Universal and James Whale saw me and wanted me to test for the part of the monster. I had no idea of the importance of the role but Jack Pierce knew, he stalled the test 2 weeks while working on the make-up and the make-up sold the part."

Don Post commented from the audience: "It was the most impressive, frightening film to that time."

MRS. monster...and the "son" of frankenstein

All this while a charming quiet blond lady had sat by Mr. Karloff's side; his wife. One of the reporters asked: "How does *Mrs.* Karloff feel about your fiendish performances?"

Karloff was not embarrassed to admit: "My wife is a woman of great taste—she has seen very very *few* of my pictures!"

After the laughter died down, he added: "In fact it was only last year that she saw

"Hush, Hush, Sweet Virginia!" says Karloff to Miss Mayo in THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY.

FRANKENSTEIN for the firstime."

The Karloffs are very good friends of the Blochs, and later on Mrs. Karloff remarked to me: "You know, Elly Bloch & I are in the same boat, so to speak—we're both cowards where our husband's films are concerned! That remarkable Mrs. Bloch flies her own airplane—but she's never seen Bob's PSYCHO or any other of his scary pictures. Says she's be frightened to death!"

FM's editor once showed me a foto of a fairly fleshy individual, a sort of Victor Buono type, signed "Boris Karloff Jr." or "the son of Karloff"—something like that, I forget exactly what. I had often wondered about it, being aware that Karloff has a daughter but having been unable to track down any evidence that he had a son. I was mulling over in my mind if it would be advisable to ask him this question publicly, wondering if there were some private sorrow attached to the son and the inquiry might prove tactless, when suddenly it popped out of the mouth of someone else.

The answer was quite simple and caused Karloff no pain.

"Ah, yes," he said. "'Tony' Karloff. No relation whatsoever. But many years ago this young man wrote and asked permission to use the name, in connection with some mystery stage act he was putting on, I believe, and I attached no particular value to the name at the time so I gave him permission to go ahead."

bela . . . "the bells" . . . and frye

One very interesting question was cleared up:

"Mr. Karloff, did you ever see Bela Lugosi do DRACULA?"

And the answer, an affirmative:

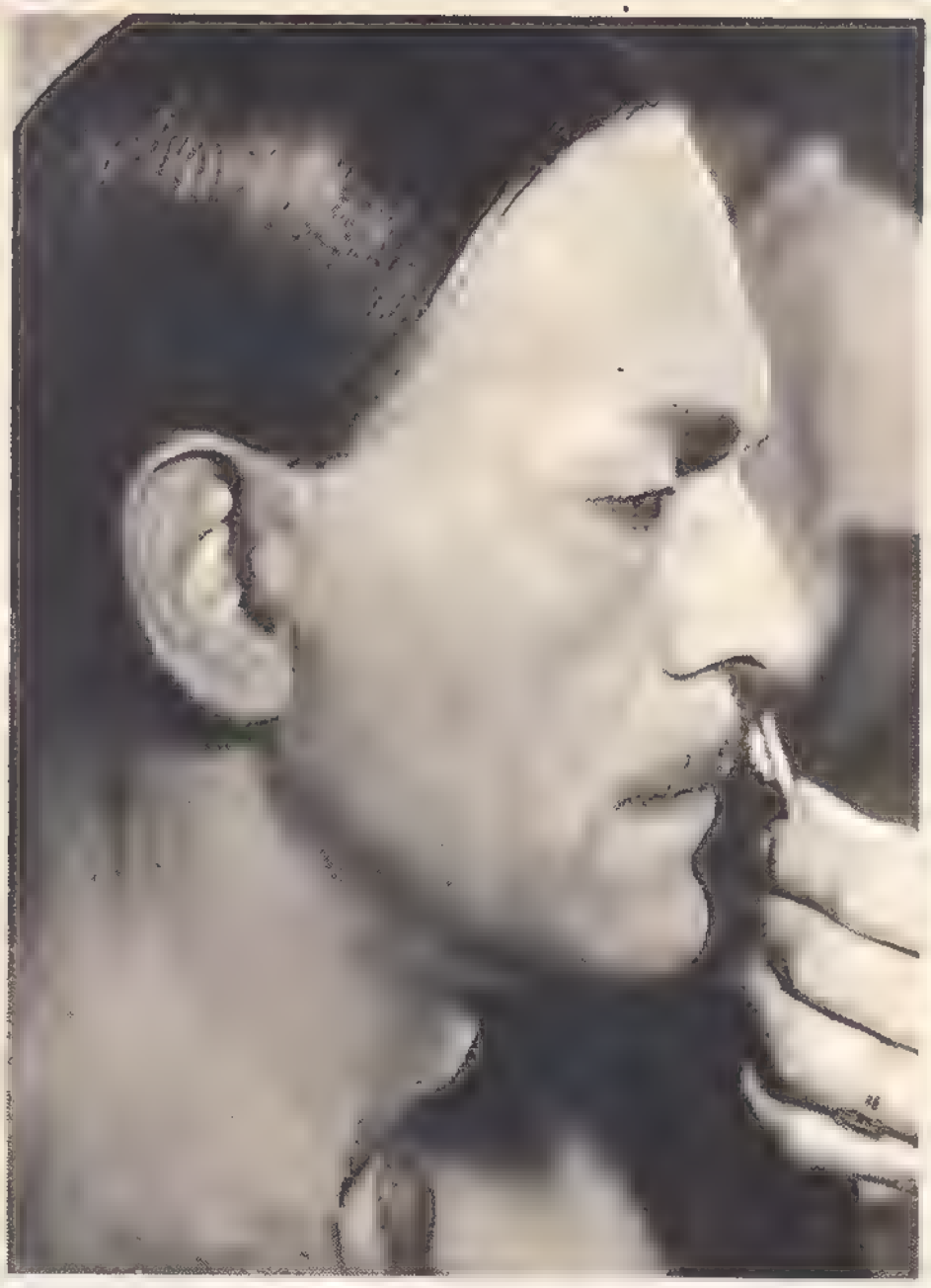
"Yes, on the stage."

Another question: "Can you tell us anything about Dwight Frye?"

"Not really. We met when he played the swarf in the first FRANKENSTEIN. I know nothing about his outside life." (He may not have been aware that Frye died in '46.)

Robert Bloch asked: "About your make-up in THE BELLS—"

Karloff anticipated his question. "You mean the Caligari-type make-up," he said. "Ah, yes—that was over 40 years ago . . . 1926, to be precise, I believe. The first make-up they gave me made me look like Svengali, and Lionel Barrymore, the picture's star, said, 'No, that's no good,' and, since I was supposed to be a sinister mesmerist, he went to work transforming me into a kind of Werner Krauss. A marvelous man, a great man, Lionel; so stimulating to work with."



You can't go Wong with Karloff as an Oriental. His most famous Eastern menace was Fu Manchu but here we bring you a side & front view of him in his lesser known characterization as Mr. Wong in the "House of Hate" film known as THE MYSTERY OF MR. WONG.

looking backward

The week after Karloff's party, this story was released by Associated Press Movie-TV Writer Bob Thomas:

Hollywood, Apr. 12—Last week they gave Boris Karloff a party—the first in his honor during almost a half-century in Hollywood.

The occasion was the release of a Decca album, *An Evening with Boris Karloff & His Friends,* which features scenes from the actor's films including FRANKENSTEIN, BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN & SON OF FRANKENSTEIN.

The site for the party was natural enough: The Magic Castle, a spooky old mansion off Franklin Ave. where magicians meet. It's a club where diners & drinkers are sometimes joined by vampires & monsters, presumably imitated by Magic Castle personnel.

Karloff seemed at home in such surroundings and he responded with his usual good humor. Unlike some stars who resent being typed in their most famous roles, the London-born actor (real name: William Henry Pratt) has always spoken affectionately of the cliff-browed monster he first played in 1931.

"I am a very lucky man," he reflected. "Here I am in my 80th year (he'll reach the mark Nov. 23) and I am still able to earn my bread & butter at my profession. I am one of that very small family of the human race who happens to thoroughly enjoy his work. If I didn't enjoy it, I wouldn't go on."

Despite a leg brace to aid an arthritic knee, he maintains an active schedule. He & his wife now live in a London flat and a cottage in Hampshire, England, but he comes here twice a year for films. During the past year he also made an *I Spy* in Spain and starred in THE SORCERORS in London.

Karloff is now in his 11th year of a *Reader's Digest* radio program which is carried by 400 U.S. stations. He tapes the daily show wherever he goes.

He had a lively run in recent years making horror pictures for American-International, along with pals Lon Chaney Jr., Basil Rathbone & Peter Lorre—"I miss Peter terribly; he was a delightful man and a truly original actor—there was none like him."

"I'm here to finish up BEFORE I DIE, which is a story similar to that campus sniping in Texas," he said. "I also hope to get the script of the next film, which I'm looking forward to. I understand it's a jungle film, and I play a kind of Albert Schweitzer."

Boris Karloff as Albert Schweitzer??!!

Peter Bogdanovich, 26, wrote BEFORE I DIE to bring "a new dimension to horror." He costars in his own script with Karloff. And, incidentally, the title has been changed to TARGETS.

"TARGETS," says Bogdanovich of his picture, "contrasts two kinds of horror, the kind represented by Boris Karloff and the senseless kind so prevalent today—a man walks into a beauty shop and kills 6 people or climbs a tower and starts sniping away. In the past people were killed usually by strangulation or by a knife. Now a machine does it for you. The horror of modern killing is that you can kill somebody and not get blood on you—not be physically stained.

"With Boris I have tried to exploit his screen character." Basically, Boris plays himself! A 79-year-old character actor, famous for a lifetime of portraying horror parts. (Excuse me—Karloff hates the word. Let us rather, in deference to the grand old star who has so deftly delineated so many macabre roles, refer to them in the language he prefers, "tales of terror.")

karloff & kevin

Hollywood critic & reporter, Kevin Thomas, recorded this anecdote:

The chauffeur-driven limousine pulled up to the drive-in box office. Tuxedo-clad Boris Karloff leaned out the rear window and asked to speak with the manager.

Altho the lights & cameras made clear that he was acting, the patrons of the Reseda Drive-In, long accustomed to seeing him on the screen, were no less startled to find him in such an unlikely setting. Indeed, it was the firstime in his life that Boris Karloff had ever been at a drive-in—in person.

And when it came time to complete the climax of TARGETS, inside the crowded outdoor theater he soon took the play away from the movie that was being shown.

a final word from the fine old gentleman

As he concluded his interview at The Magic Castle, Karloff observed:

"My leg in a steel brace . . . operating with only half a lung . . . why, it's a public scandal that I'm still around! But, as long as people want me, I feel an obligation to go on performing. After all, every time I act I provide employment for a fleet of doubles!"

THE END (IS NOT YET)
O KING, LIVE FOREVER!

The month long exhibit in honor of the phonograph album "An Evening with Boris Karloff and His Friends" in the principal show window of Hollywood's top record shop at Sunset & Vein. (Courtesy Wallich's Music City.)

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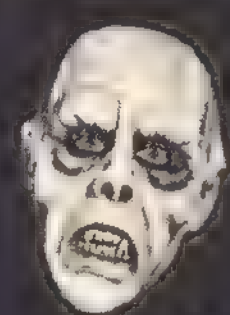
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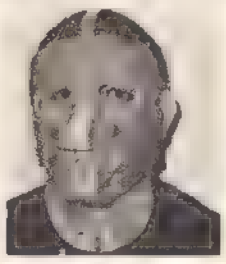

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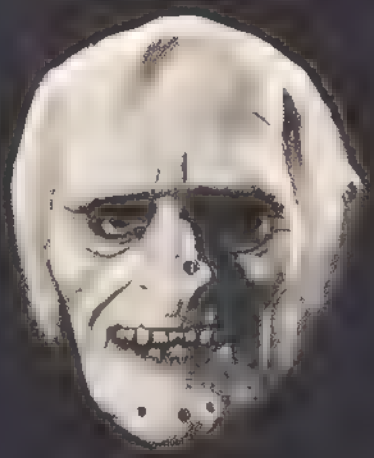
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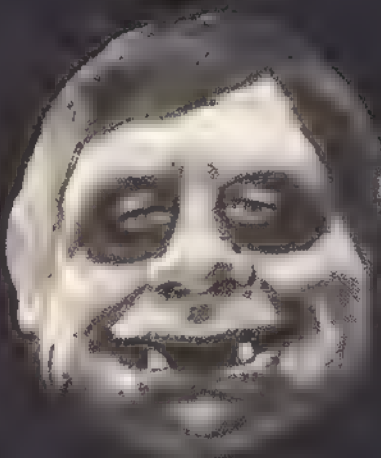
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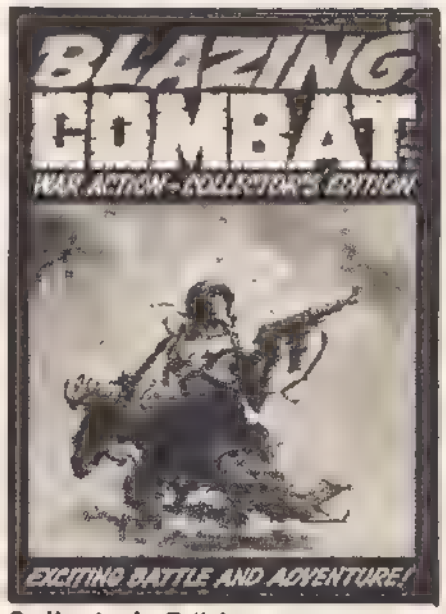

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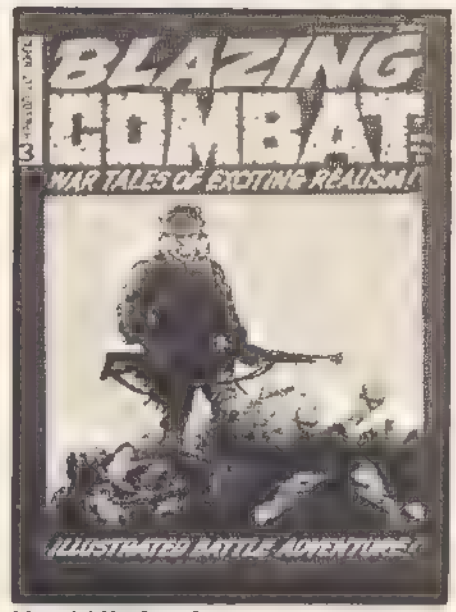

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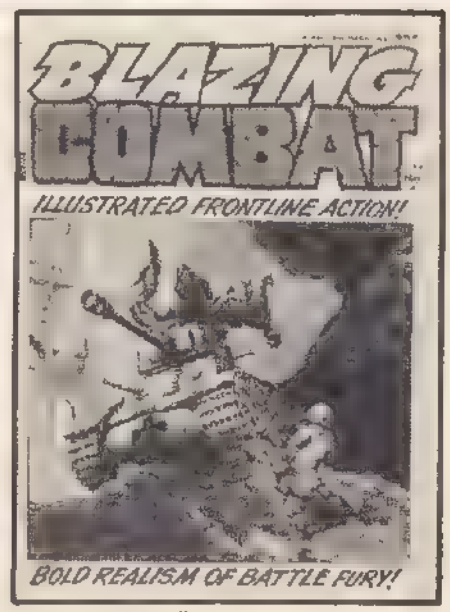

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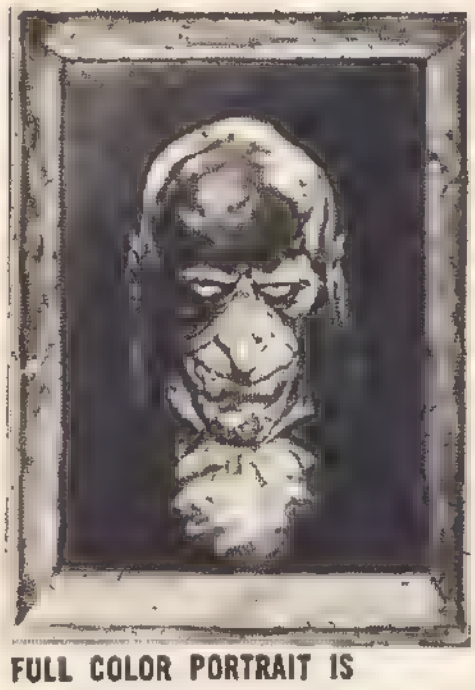
THE CREEPY FAN CLUB? WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?!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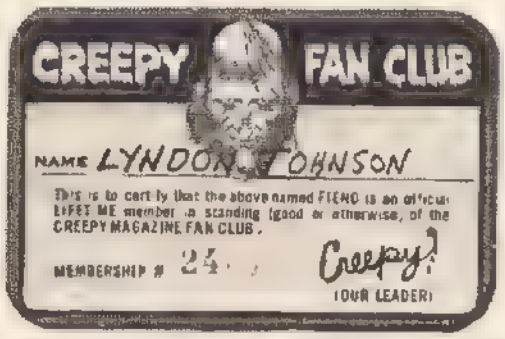
Ooze your orbs around the page . . . It can all be yours! An 8x10 FULL COLOR portrait of your favorite fiend, UNCLE CREEPY by that master of the monstrous, FRANK FRAZETTA, suitable for framing . . . The OFFICIAL CLUB PIN (Shown half size below), full color and sturdily constructed . . . And the pocket-size MEMBERSHIP CARD printed on strong high quality paper stock, also shown half size! Once you get this fearfully fun kit, you're eligible to submit drawings and stories for print in the FAN CLUB PAGE appearing in every issue of CREEPY! Just send the coupon below . . . NOW!



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FORRORR DRACULA jr

RECREATED BEFORE YOUR EYES

Mark of the Vampire on his throat
(John Van Eyssen, left; Phil Gregory, right.)

dracula in his blood

13—that's the number of times Glenn Sherrard has seen HORROR OF DRACULA. So far . . . He hasn't quit, by any means.

But now, even if the professional version isn't playing in town or on TV, Glenn has the means of seeing his favorite movie over & over again, any time he wants.

He simply remade it!

Well, perhaps "simply" isn't exactly the right word. At the age of 18, he devoted 9 months to filming it, spending $600 and winding up with an 80 minute recreation of the original which has been highly praised by the President of the Christopher Lee Fan Club and others who have seen the finished product. It's in 8mm with color & sound.

birth of a monster

For Glenn Sherrard of Louisville, Ky., it all began when he was about 12. "I got a copy of *FAMOUS MONSTERS* and read it thoroughly," he tells us, "eagerly absorbing all items contained. Then I began to collect them, and as a result I started collecting any & all material on the subject of horror. It really has grown on me.

"I suppose that I *really* got involved when I started buying plastic models of the monsters. Soon I was making my own. Life-size, naturally! At the age of 13, I made my first Frankenstein, Wolf Man, Mummy. These were very crude, tho, and I was still not at all pleased. As I grew older I improved my methods. I used more professional materials and far more painstaking hours. I am still dissatisfied and will go on seeking better methods as long as possible.

"I plan a 35' King Kong!"

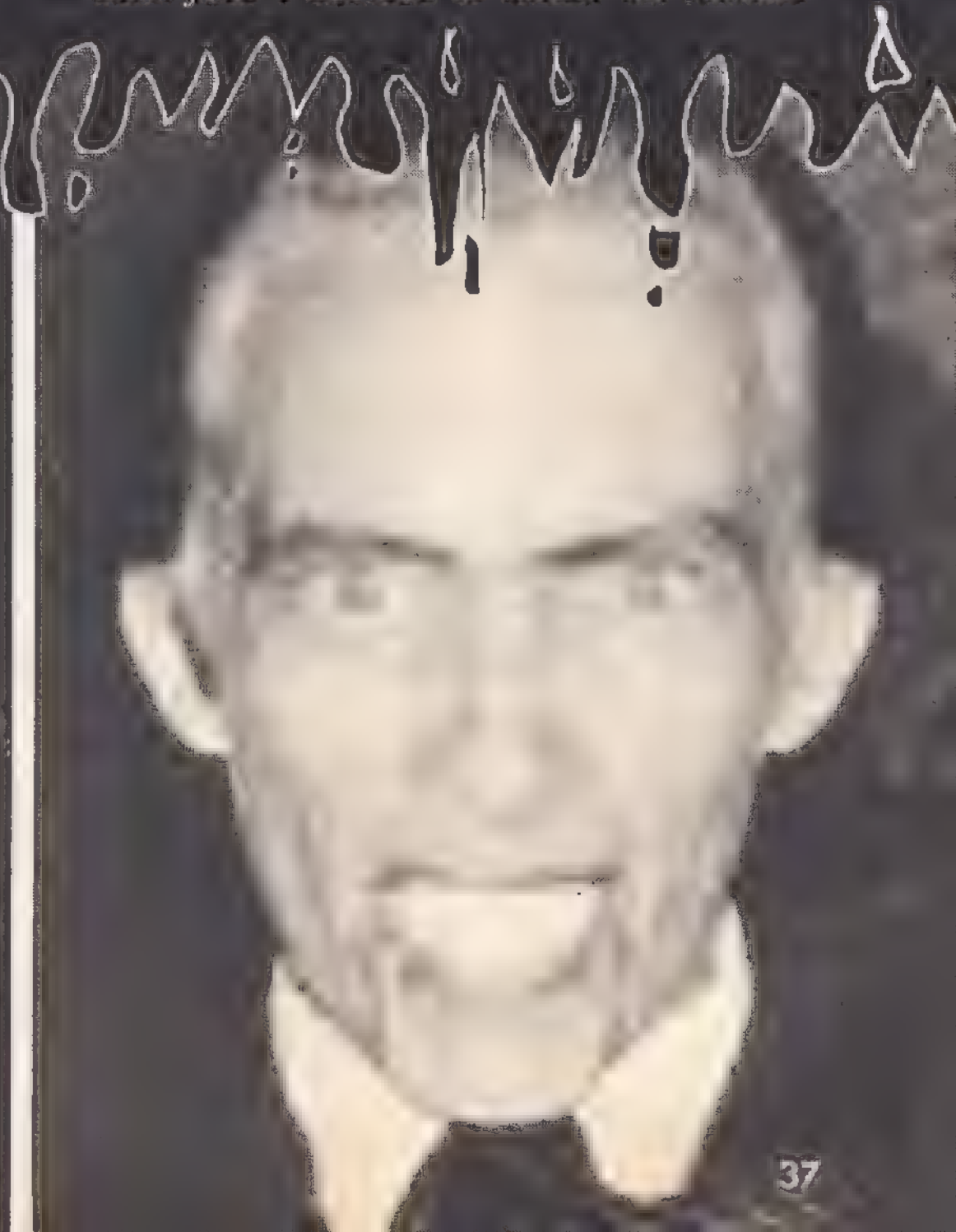
the "lawn" chaney of louisville

"At Halloween during past years I have displayed the Hunchback of Notre Dame, A giant tarantula and other creations on the lawn in my front yard. Unfortunately, last year teenage troublemakers turned up and spoiled the fun for everyone. The display always had 'live' monsters hidden within the models and woe to those who failed to notice!"

"son" of dracula

"HORROR OF DRACULA with Chris Lee came & went in my home town and left within me a desire to do Dracula as powerfully as Lee had made the Count. I joined Lee's club (by an ad in *FM*) and soon started to utilize make-up. By now I had appeared at a local Drive-in with the entire display and myself as Dracula. The manager has now made it a practice to hand me all the info, posters, etc., on horror shows there.

"Last year I decided to tackle the remake



Dracula at his most diabolical, portrayed at left by Christopher Lee; right, Glenn Sherrard.

A VAMPIRE'S KISS OF DEATH

"Kiss" of the vampire. Professional still, left; amateur, right.

of HORROR OF DRACULA with myself in the title role. As I could never succeed unless it was an exact duplicate, I did *all* the work myself. This ranged from *set construction, costumes, filming, editing, make-up, lighting, props, special effects,* and actually ALL the work. Only the scenes in which I appeared were filmed by a friend."

amazing accuracy

Glenn even built a coach for the chase scene . . . had the teeth custom-made and fitted like Lee's . . . but hand't any money left for the lenses. "So to duplicate the bloodshot eyes I used a method that I don't recommend to anyone, namely, putting a quantity of make-up blood in each eye. The effect was terrifically real—it was also very painful, for the blood would wash out every 2 minutes, and as some scenes like the death scene required 8 hours to film, I had to repeat the process far too much. But it was worth it."

Glenn also built all the castle furniture, walls, columns and fashioned his own stain glass windows.

Death of a vampire, from HORROR OF DRACULA (professional), left; amateur, right.

and what will we do for an encore?

"My future plans consists of 3 FACES OF FEAR, a trilogy which includes stores of a werewolf, ghoul & ghost.

"This fall & winter will find me replaying the undead count in REVENGE OF DRACULA, a sequel to PRINCE OF DARKNESS, for which I have written a taut script which will introduce fresh ideas and a new story. My story features the return of Van Helsing."

Interviewed by a local reporter, Glenn, who is a high school graduate, explained: "Horror is quite popular. Large fan clubs for actors who appear in macabre films exist in many cities and several fan magazines cater to folks who enjoy being scared for fun.

"Why are horror films so popular? Because they provide the best form of ecapism. Someone can become a spy or at least meet one but it is not likely they'll ever really meet a vampire or monster."

One thing's for sure: whoever meets Glenn Sherrard meets a dedicated disciple of the

Christopher Lee lies sleeping in his coffin after slaking his thirst; and Glenn Sherrard duplicates the scene.

A moment later, the vampire wakes . . . and the audience quakes, whether it's Lee or his teen twin, Glenn.

The stakes are high in these scenes, the original on the left and the re-creation.

Dracula dies twice!—Christopher Lee undergoing disintegration on the right, Glenn on the left.

serious art of Gothic film. Hollywood could use a young "Citizen Kane", a new one-man-show like Orson Welles, talents to take up the fallen torches of Peter Lorre, Bela Lugosi, Claude Rains. "Ultimately I'd like to be a movie actor," says Glenn; "failing that, to do make-up for horror films." It's happened before. Readers from our earliest issues will remember the introduction of Chris Robinson, maker of the monster in THE BEAST FROM THE HAUNTED CAVE, who has grown to great popularity in TV; Martin Varno, scripter of NIGHT OF THE BLOOD BEAST, now a make-up artist (NIGHTMARE IN WAX, Cameron Mitchell); Mark McGee, who has just written & directed EQUINOX (with Taurus and other animated monsters). So—it can happen here! Go, Glenn, Go!

THE BEGINNING

SUPER SPECIAL EXCITING PAPERBACK BOOKS!

FRANKENSTEIN

"The Monster Awakes. The artificial body I had constructed with such care lay lifeless before me. My goal was in sight. I began . . ." Read the thrilling, chilling words of this masterpiece just as it was written in the original manuscript.

DRACULA

He was a vampire. To live, this mysterious nobleman had to have the elixir of life, sucked from the veins of the living. This extraordinary horror tale tells the story of people caught in the spell of Count Dracula's strange powers.

THE DOLL MAKER

A tale of piercing terror about the agony of a poor victim who cannot escape the strange mastery of an egomaniac practicing unknown horrors. A graphic, emotional short novel of weird and chilling characters that seem absolutely real — by a new author of frightening tales: Sarban. Don't miss this!

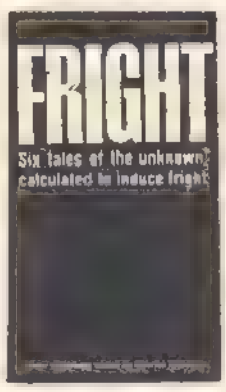
DONOVAN'S BRAIN

A masterpiece of horror! The million-copy best-selling thriller about a young scientist—and his weird experiments with a live brain with the immortal power of evil! On this classic suspense story was based the famous film DONOVAN'S BRAIN. Its celebrated author, Curt Siodmak, has written many science-fiction novels.

INVISIBLE MEN

Invisibility is an idea which has enchanted mankind for ages—and is the perfect blueprint for exciting horror. No wonder that some of the finest writers have written on this theme! Among the very best are stories in this paperback.

FRIGHT



Can you recall the last time you suffered FRIGHT?

Perhaps you can, but you have nothing in common with the people in this book.

They carry the taste of fear with them day and night. It is there all the time, waiting . . . watching. FRIGHT has become the predominant emotion in their lives!

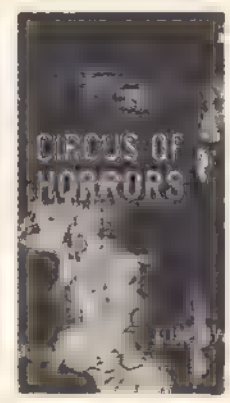
THE 39 STEPS

A cryptic message, scrawled in a dead man's hand, was all that Richard Hannay had to go on.

It was the only clue to the dread cult called Black Stone, and to the man with eyes lidded like a hawk.

THRILLING AND SENSATIONAL . . . FIRST RATE!

CIRCUS OF HORRORS



A ruthless surgeon . . creating personalities for his own fiendish ends. Behind the glittering facade of his famous circus, a sinister plastic surgeon built a world of horror, probing deeper and deeper into the mysteries of his craft.

TARZAN

ORIGINAL NOVELS COMPLETE IN PAPERBACK

For those of you who have thrilled to the movie exploits of this famous jungle lord, a new treat is waiting. At last you can buy authorized Edgar Rice Burroughs editions of the first ten original Tarzan novels. If you enjoyed reading about or seeing the movie versions of TARZAN AND THE GOLDEN LION, starring James Pierce and the many other classic and recent Tarzan adventures, then here is your chance to own forever these exciting treasures in book form. A wonderful set for any home library, you will without doubt find these fictional favorites to be even more exciting as novels than they were on the screen.

TARZAN OF THE APES #1

The birth, boyhood and thrilling growth to manhood of Tarzan who is raised in the heart of the primeval jungle by a tribe of great apes.

THE RETURN OF TARZAN #2

Tarzan rejects civilization and goes back to his savage homeland to rescue the beautiful American girl, Jane Porter.

THE BEASTS OF TARZAN #3

Trained by Tarzan, Sheeta, the vicious panther, and Akut, the great ape, help pursue the murderous kidnappers of Jane and Tarzan's young son.

THE SON OF TARZAN #4

Young John Greystoke, Tarzan's son, comes to Africa with Akut, the ape. Akut teaches him the ways of the beasts until he has earned the name of Korak the Killer.

TARZAN AND THE JEWELS OF OPAR #5

Deep in the heart of the jungle lies lost Opar—a fabulous city ruled by its magnificent High Priestess La and run by a savage race that is half-man and half-beast.

JUNGLE TALES OF TARZAN #6

Stories of the young manhood of Tarzan which return to the time when even Tarzan comes close to death in learning Jungle Craft.

TARZAN THE UNTAMED #7

The veneer of civilization is stripped from Tarzan when he seeks vengeance on those who destroyed his home and abducted his wife.

TARZAN THE TERRIBLE #8

In search of Jane, Tarzan journeys to Pal-ul-don, a land forgotten by time, where prehistoric monsters rage through the chasms and forests.

TARZAN AND THE GOLDEN LION #9

Tarzan's kinship for beasts enables him to rear and train the magnificently savage lion Jad-bal-ja as his constant companion.

TARZAN AND THE ANT MEN #10

Inside an impenetrable thorn forest Tarzan finds the Minunians, a race of men only eighteen inches high.

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GREAT COMIC BOOK & SUPERHERO PAPER-BACKS

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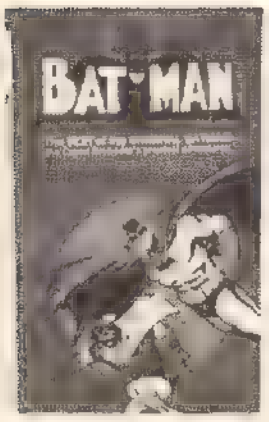
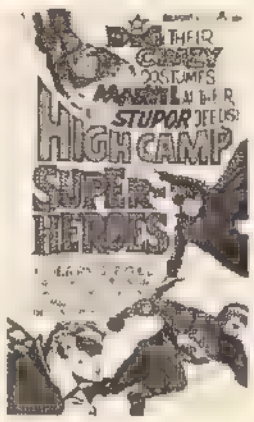


POW! Straight from Signet comes this COLLECTOR'S EDITION OF BATMAN featuring the greatest of the very first early adventures of AMERICA'S No. 1 TV Heroes: BATMAN and THE BOY WONDER, ROBIN.

THE FANTASTIC FOUR

They're IN! The new breed of Super Heroes with Super Problems, The Aristocrats of the Marvel World . . . The Fantastic Four — their greatest adventures plus never-revealed secrets. Collector's Album.

HIGH CAMP SUPER-HEROES



You're Steel Sterling the basher of baddies, suddenly blitzed by the Monster Master . . . You're The Web coming out of retirement to regain eminence as a bad-guy defeater . . . You're in trouble . . .

AMAZING SPIDERMAN

Here's the teenage Super Hero Esquire called one of the "28 People Who Count" on the Campus . . . "The most popular Marvel hero . . . is the maladjusted adolescent Spider Man, the only overtly neurotic super hero . . .

BATMAN VS. 3 VILLAINS OF DOOM

EEYOW! KAROOM! It's a full-length novel featuring Batman and Robin vs. The Penguin, The Joker, and The Cat-Woman. It's the Dynamic Duo's greatest adventure and it's available only from Signet.

BATMAN VS. JOKER

KEZAM!!! IT'S THE CAPED CRUSADER BATTLING THE CLOWN OF CRIME KERPOW! IT'S BATMAN, AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE COMIC STRIP HERO VS. THE JOKER AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE ANTI-HERO. Here's another SCOOP!!!! Straight from the closed files of BATMAN — files dating back to the early fifties — We bring you the very best of the ORIGINAL BATMAN VS. THE JOKER CAPERS.

BATMAN VS. PENGUIN

BLAAAP!!! The foul bird of banditry challenges America's Number One Hero! . . . EEEEK!!! The feline beauty with a felon's mind challenges the Caped Crusader in BATMAN VS. THE CATWOMAN THE BEST OF THE ORIGINAL ADVENTURES OF BATMAN VS. THE PENGUIN AND ZOWIE!! An added first — THIS BATMAN BOOK ALSO INCLUDES one of the very first adventures of BATMAN VS. THE CATWOMAN.

SUPERMAN

Thrill to the BEST OF THE ORIGINAL SUPERMAN . . . five great adventures of the Man of Steel — Including the closely guarded story of his secret past. Plus THE INVULNERABLE ENEMY, SUPERMAN'S 3 MISTAKES, and THE MENACE OF RED-GREEN KRYPTONITE! IT'S THE SUPERBOOK OF THE SIXTIES!

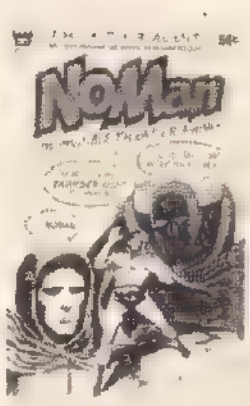
INCREDIBLE HULK

HERE'S The Incredible HULK! Starring the world's strongest mortal who dares to ask the burning question: "CAN A MAN WITH GREEN SKIN AND A PETULANT PERSONALITY FIND TRUE HAPPINESS IN TODAY'S STATUS - SEEKING SOCIETY?" MEET THE GREAT GREEN GOLIATH, THE HOWLING, HURTLING HULK IS BASHING HIS WAY INTO THE HEARTS OF AMERICANS.

THE MIGHTY THOR

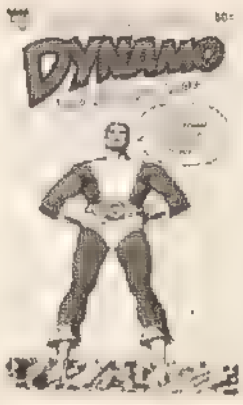
Thor, the Norse thundergod, recently had to take an elevator to the top of a midtown skyscraper before he could fly off to Asia to stop a rampaging witchdoctor — because a cop wouldn't let Thor whirl his magic hammer on a crowded street. A woman in the elevator looked at Thor's shoulder-length blond curls and mused, "That REMINDS me—I'm due for a PERMANENT at noon."

NOMAN



T.H.U.N.D.E.R.
T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agent NOMAN is really Dr. Dunn, top scientist volunteered to let his human body die to transfer consciousness to identical android brain. His specialty is an invisibility Cloak, giving him the ability to switch from one body to another. He is the Most Feared Agent of them all!

DYNAMO



THRILL TO the greatest adventures of the dynamic T.H.U.N.D.E.R. AGENTS, DYNAMO and his "Thunder - belt", NoMAN and his invisible cloak, MENTHOR and his magic helmet and THE IRON MAIDEN, the beautiful woman with a heart of Iron! READ IT ALL HERE!

MONSTERS

BEWARE! MONSTERS AT WORK! Prepare to have your flesh crawl with terror, your heart pound with fear, your eyes grow wide in horror as a host of hideous things — crowd in on you in the darkness of the night. Ordinarily these creatures lurk in hidden places of other planets, other dimensions But they all come to frightening life in the wondrous pages of this hair-raising collection.

BORIS KARLOFF'S FAVORITE HORROR STORIES

Do not be afraid. Boris Karloff is here to light your way down the dark, shuddering corridors of blood-chilling suspense. Come in, if you dare. Watch out for trap doors. And, oh yes, please close them behind you when you leave . . . if you still can . . .

TALES OF THE FRIGHTENED

You are about to go on a journey where a man cannot escape his fate, where a cat can terrify a human being, where a woman is capable of lifting her head off her shoulders to re-do her hair, where a curious man with a strange umbrella follows you down the street . . . and the great unknown of uncertainty is poised at every turn of the road.

KING KONG

ALL THE THRILLS AND ADVENTURE OF THE GREATEST HORROR FILM OF ALL TIME! King Kong, the giant killer - ape whose savage heart was touched by the innocent beauty of a strange blonde girl . . . Who battled to save her from the ravenous jaws of man-eating dinosaurs . . . Who finally broke loose and terrorized a whole city, in search of his lost love.

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R·I·P

Eight for Eternity ...and the darkness falls -

Obituaries

TOM CONWAY

BASIL RATHBONE

CHARLES BEAUMONT

NELSON EDDY

MISCHA AUER

WALT DISNEY

BARBARA PAYTON

SPENCER TRACY

Quasimodo is ringing the bells of Notre Dame for Prince Sirki has come in his dark coach and kidnapped the living again. And again and again! Never since this magazine began, in February 1958, has such catastrophe struck the ranks of our filmonster actors, writers, producers.

Claude Rains! Basil Rathbone! Walt Disney!

Dead.

Ring the bells of sorrow, Quasimodo.

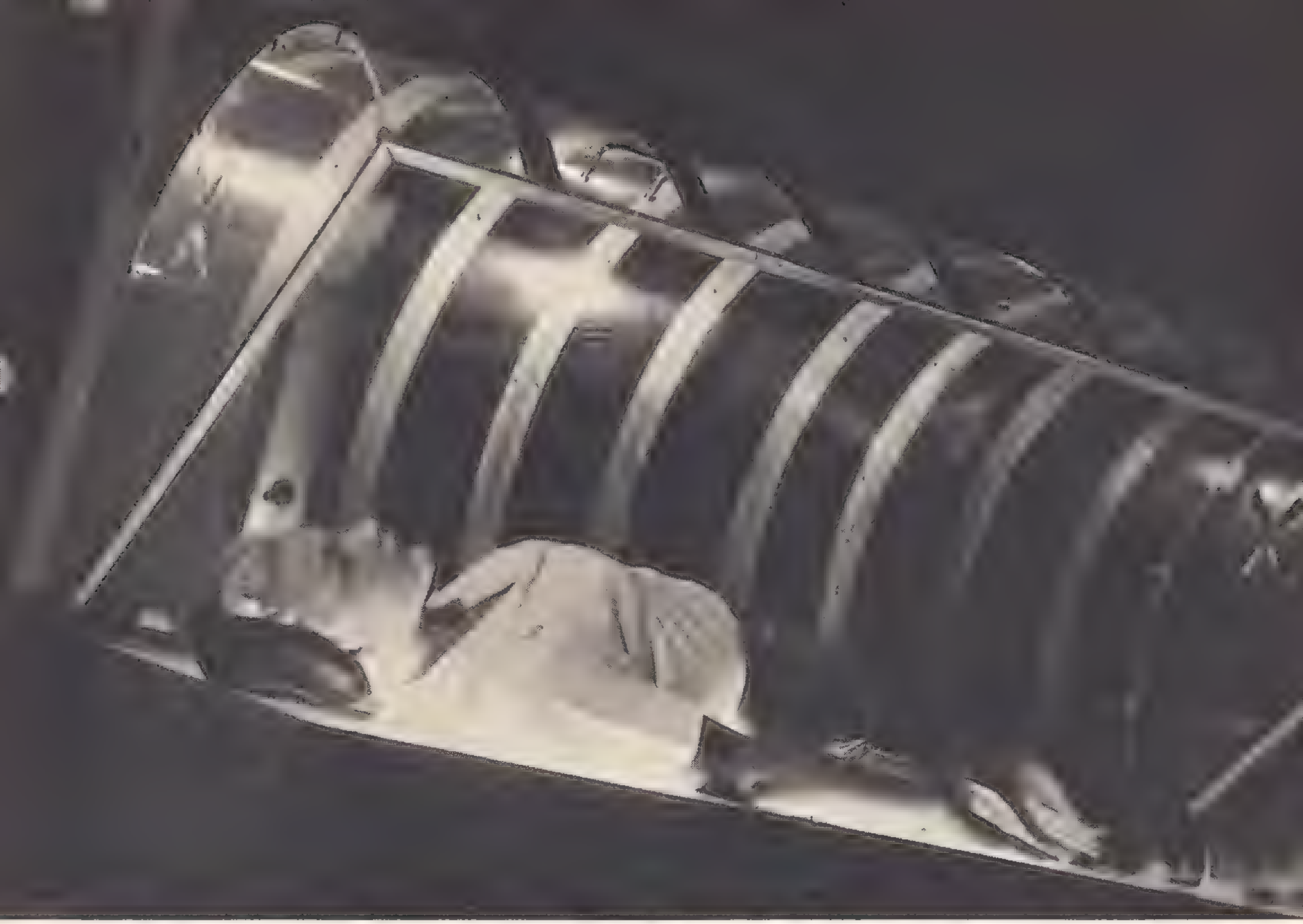
THE 7 FACES OF DR. LAO, THE INVISIBLE MAN, JUST IMAGINE, 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA, BURN, WITCH, BURN!; THEM!—and so many more films which were good or even great because of their part in them.

Spencer Tracy in DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE!

Disaster that cannot be hidden.

Sound the death knell, Quasimodo. Let us all gather at the great Cathedral to say farewell to our departed friends whom we will see no more except in shadowland.

Mighty Kong symbolizes mighty losses of filmonstrodom personalities in the past few months.



The late Barbara Payton in the twinning machine that made her into two identical women in 4-SIDED TRIANGLE in a scene similar to what the late Warner Baxter went thru in 6 HOURS TO LIVE and which all began with Brigitte Helm in METROPOLIS. The book 4-SIDED TRIANGLE is one of the best fantastic novels ever written. See Obituary for other of Barbara's films.

dr. jekyll in dante's inferno

Spencer Tracy. Early in his career he went to Hell. That isn't meant to sound as bad as it does. The fact is, that in 1936 Spencer Tracy starred in a remake of the Italian silent classic, DANTE'S INFERNO. During the course of this film he was given a guided tour of the Underworld, the Devil's domain of lost souls, fire & brimstone, eternal punishment for dead sinners.

Eleven years later at the same studio—Fox—Tracy made a color film which was included in Walt Lee's famous *Science Fiction & Fantasy Film Checklist* (published in '58 and unfortunately long out of print) under the heading of "borderline science fiction comedy." It was called DESK SET.

Star of the best JEKYLL & HYDE, of course—Frederic March—is, happily, still very much with us. Mr. March, in fact, won an Academy Award for his role in Stevenson's great fright film. But Spencer Tracy's version (1941) has probably been *seen* by more people, and while he didn't win an Oscar for it, he *did* get an Oscar *twice* in his long career in films.

Spencer Tracy was born on 5 April 1900 and passed away on 10 June 1967. He was one of the screen's most beloved actors.

the baritone & the phantom

Nelson Eddy.

He played Anatole in the Universal remake of 1943 of THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.

When the chandelier crashed in the crowded Opera, he was there.

When Christine fainted, he was there to catch her.

When the Phantom kidnapped Christine, Nelson was there to rescue her.

He made no specialty of appearing in films of fantasy but rather made his reputation as costar with Jeannette MacDonald in a number of the most popular musical romances ever filmed. But whenever Claude Rains menaces again in THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, Nelson Eddy will live again.

He was born on 29 June 1901 and died on 6 March 1967.

JUST IMAGINE a rocket to Mars in 1930! That's when this film about 1980 was made. Mia Sinatra's mother was the leading lady in it (same Maureen O'Sullivan who played Jane in the Johnny Weissmuller Tarzan pictures) and she's still alive—but recently died, Kenneth Harlan, the villain of the picture, and Mischa Auer, seen in cape at left of ladder, pointing with umbrella.

just imagine!

Death did a strange thing: not only did He take Nelson Eddy on the 6th of March but the day before He took *Mischa Auer* (born 17 Nov. 1905, died 5 Mar. '67).

Fans of fantastic motion pictures who were alive in 1930 will remember one of Auer's earliest film appearances as a son of mystery in the amazing prediction of 50 years in the future, JUST IMAGINE. JUST IMAGINE was the first sound film about a trip to Mars, and prophecied a World of Indexed Numbers in 1980. Maureen O'Sullivan, for instance, was LN-18; the hero was J-21. And by an incredible coincidence, out of all the number & letter combinations that could have been dreamed up for a name, Mischa Auer was called B-36 . . . a famous bomber that didn't come into existence till World War 2!

Many years later, toward the end of his career, Mischa Auer made a fantastic film in France called BY FOOT, HORSE & SPUTNIK! A still from it shows him defying gravity and floating in a weightless condition inside a futuristic spaceship.

marks of terror

Auer was in a virtually unknown fright film, perhaps British in origin, called MARK OF TERROR.

And, if memory serves correctly, in the 1950 Columbia release of an Italian film, FAUST & THE DEVIL.

Back in 1932 he made THE MONSTER WALKS.

In 1965 in New York, at a rare showing of the hours-long silent French serial THE VAMPIRES, a very ill-looking Mischa Auer was observed viewing the picture in the packed auditorium.

Turning back the clock to his best-known horror film, CONDEMNED TO LIVE, the editor quotes (following) the very review which he had published in mid-1936, a short time after seeing the film, when it was quite fresh in his mind . . . a mind, incidentally, which was only 20 years old at the time. So you are not reading a review as it might be written today at 50, but as it was actually written at a time when the editor was only slightly older than the majority of *FM's* readers:

Nelson Eddy was menaced by him in the second PHANTOM OF THE OPERA; Claude Rains, himself a victim of death recently.

Basil Rathbone as Wolf von Frankenstein in SON OF FRANKENSTEIN with Boris Karloff. Heart attack took "Sherlock Holmes" Rathbone at 75.

condemned to live

To a small town in an obscure country of the 19th century, comes terror by night—a series of mystery murders, after dark. The superstitious villagers give a supernatural explanation to the shocking events—claim they are at the mercy of a Vampire Bat! They appeal to Dr. Kristahn (Ralph Morgan), kindly counsellor of the village, for advice. "Bolt your doors and burn your lights!" Yet, because of a necessity some must venture outside after dark, the devilish murders continue.

Dr. Kristahn is to be married. In anticipation of this occasion, his best & oldest friend arrives from another country. Kristahn tells him of a strange illness he has been suffering: often at nights, he has terrific headaches, accompanied by dizzy spells; his mind blanks, he is unconscious of what may occur. His friend is visibly worried but offers no explanation.

That night, when his house has retired, Dr. Kristahn goes to his study. He reads a bit by candlelight, until—his head begins to hurt. The pain pyramids unendurably; he falls unconscious.

The candle is used up. It's dark. Slowly Kristahn's head raises. He departs his desk, moves to the moonlit window. As he gazes at our satellite, an unholy expression floods his face. *His hands become clutching claws; his labored breath clucks in his throat; his countenance is transformed to a visage horrifying, inhuman!* He steals into the night . . .

death in the dark

Days pass. Death continues to strike from the dark. Kristahn is becoming somehow suspicious he, himself, may be the beast; while his friend seems strongly to suspect. The friend makes Kristahn's financee's father swear he will not leave his daughter alone a moment. He further advises Kristahn to release the girl from her engagement, until such a time as he shall again be a well man. Kristahn goes to perform this mission at night. On his way thru a black forest; his head swirls; he trips, falls—and transforms! When he arrives at his betrothed's, he is the Monster! A maidservant, opening the door, is attacked by him. Her screams, before death, waken the household, and the noise of the approaching people frighten Kristahn away. When he comes to consciousness, he is back at home, Zahn bending over him.

Zahn (Mischa Auer) is a malformed unfortunate whose life Kristahn once saved. Because of his ugliness, sinister appearance, the villagers distrust him; but he is actually a harmless, human creature, loyal to his chosen master. Kristahn questions him, demanding under what circumstances he discovered him this night. *Zahn* says he followed him, fearing for his safety in the dark; saw him stumble, hit his head; carried him, unconscious, home.

A certain conviction is growing on Kristahn but he can get his devoted servant to admit nothing further. He declares he must reach his financee at once and break their betrothal.

After he leaves, his friend forces the twisted one to confess the terrible truth he has been concealing from his master. *Zahn,* acknowledges the Doctor to indeed be the Monster; outlines how he, his servant, has always accompanied him secretly, to (unsuccessfully) attempt to prevent his crimes, afterwards disposing of the victims by carrying them to the cave. He insists, now, that he must follow his Master, to see that no harm befalls him. The friend agrees, and both are about to hurry after him, when a group of villagers arrive. The friend instructs *Zahn* to leave by a back door, while he learns the villager's mission.

Kristahn has arrived at his financee's. The father feels his pledge to never leave his daughter alone cannot possibly be interpreted to include the doctor, so discreetly retires. The girl notices the light distresses Kristahn's eyes, so snuffs a candle. He is alarmed at this but she calms his fear with a caress. As they converse, she extinguishes the lamp. Kristahn excitedly protests but again she casts aside lightly his concerns. The gratefire burns out. At last he feels he must confess to her the conviction haunting him. "My dear," he chokes, "I feel I may be the Monster."

the terrible transformation

"Impossible!" she laughs. "And just to prove it to you—" She blows out the one remaining candle! Here is the film's eerie-est moment. *Kristahn tenses. The terrible transformation overtakes him. Fiendish becomes his face & form. Vision of a vampire! His bride-to-be backs away, aghast. He leaps at her. . . .*

The door bursts open. Confusion. When a candle's lit, *Zahn* is bending over the prostrate bodies of the girl and his Master. The villagers appear, having decided *Zahn* to be the killer, and tracked him here. The situation satisfies them completely. "Zahn—Zahn is the murderer!" they cry, convinced.

To protect his Master, the crippled creature accepts the accusation by the action of attempting escape. The vigilantes surmise he will make for the cave and pursue him there. In the meantime, the girl and Kristahn are revived. The doctor realizes the awful truth about himself. His friend at last explains.

the mark of the vampire

It happened in Africa. Africa the mysterious, the unknown. Kristahn's parents were explorers. They discovered a cave of giant bloodsucking bats. His mother was attacked by one the night of Kristahn's birth. She died, but he was born—*condemned to live.* His elderly friend had been on that expedition.

What Tom Conway saw when THE SHE-CREATURE materialized out of the sea.

Chas. Beaumont wrote screenplay of 7 FACES OF DR. LAO. This is The Snowman from DR. LAO.

Good News! We got the wrong information about the great musician of KONG. Max Steiner lives!

Thru childhood, adolescence and manhood, Kristahn had fearfully been watched—but the mark of the vampire had never shown itself. Until he grew older, and fatigued from overwork. Now the spells would recur over shortening intervals, until finally he would become a Beast.

But *Zahn* had taken the blame; his life was endangered. The Doctor realized he must save him. He sped to the cave, where the mob had trapped his faithful servant and were closing in to kill him. Kristahn stopped them, revealed the horrifying fact that he was the Fiend. And with that, aware it was the only answer, leaped into a pit. *Zahn* plunged in after him. . . .

Editor's Note, 1967: In horror films, it was Mischa's finest Auer.

payton's place

Barbara Payton, born 16 Nov. '27, died 8 May '67. She appeared with Lon Chaney Jr. & Raymond Burr in BRIDE OF THE GORILLA, 1951, story of a strange curse that turned a man into a jungle beast . . . RUN FOR THE HILLS (1953), a farce about a return to cavemen days After the Bomb of World War 3 . . . and 4-SIDED TRIANGLE, film of an amazing invention whereby she became a human duplicate.

GOOD news !!!

After preparing two pages of pictures (KING KONG) as a memoriam to his passing, we are *most* happy to inform you that *Max Steiner* is *not* dead! Our original source of information was mistaken.

Born 10 May 1888, this elder statesman of the movie music world, is still with us! His most recent musical score was for 2 ON A GUILLOTINE. And while looking at LOST HORIZON, LAST DAYS OF POMPEII, and SON OF KONG, clear back to the original *KING KONG,* you have been *listening* to the exciting sounds of Max Steiner! So, instead of a sad report of his passing, we are pleased to make this a *Salute* to MAX STEINER as he approaches his 80th birthday. Maestro, may your notes continue to be music to our ears!

king of the beautiful mountain

Beaumont. The name meant Beautiful Mountain. And, at 38, Charles Beaumont, having climbed Olympian heights in his brief life, climbed his final mountain to a resting place in the clouds.

On earth, he authored these fantastic films: QUEEN OF OUTER SPACE . . . BURN, WITCH, BURN! (with Richard Matheson) . . . THE PREMATURE BURIAL (with Ray Russell) . . . THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF THE BROTHERS GRIMM . . . MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH . . . THE HAUNTED PALACE

The Giant Squid attacks Capt. Nemo's Nautilus in Walt Disney's 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA.

. . . and THE 7 FACES OF DR. LAO. The Famous Monsters Award for best horror film of its year was earned by BURN, WITCH, BURN!

Beaumont wrote many episodes of *Twilight Zone.* He *appeared* as an actor in his own film, THE INTRUDER. He loved King Kong, pulp magazines, books, Oz, Poe, Burroughs and old horror movies, and published his own fan magazine, *Utopia,* in his early teens. He was a fantasy fan who came up from the ranks and made good in a spectacular way. Among his many stories were "Sorcerer's Moon", "Blood Brother", "The Howling Man", "Dark Music" & "The Monster Show". I agented his first story, "The Devil, You Say", in 1950, and 2 years later took him to Bela Lugosi, who was looking for a comeback property. Eventually Burgess Meredith played in an adaptation of the story on *Twilight Zone.*

He is no longer with us but his magic still dazzles, erupts, sparkles, surprises and, finally, tells us a little more about the world we live—and die—in.

father of fantasyland

A whole issue could be devoted to *WALT DISNEY* (died at 65). We remind you of 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA, MOON PILOT, MARS AND BEYOND, SWORD IN THE STONE, MERLIN JONES, *FANTASIA* and . . . *Disneyland.* The world's gratitude to one of the world's greatest. . . .

last rites

Tom Conway; born in Russia, 15 Sep. '04; died 22 Apr. '67. Made 280 movies! during his 25 year acting career, including I WALKED WITH A ZOMBIE, SHE CREATURE, VOODOO WOMAN, 12 TO THE MOON, 7th VICTIM and THE CAT PEOPLE. Real name, Thos. Chas. Sanders; brother of Geo. Sanders.

END

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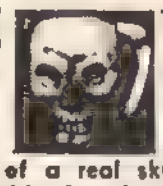

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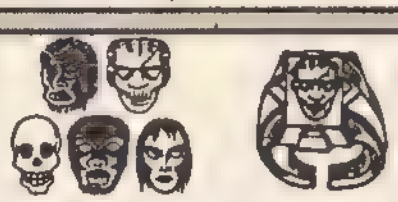

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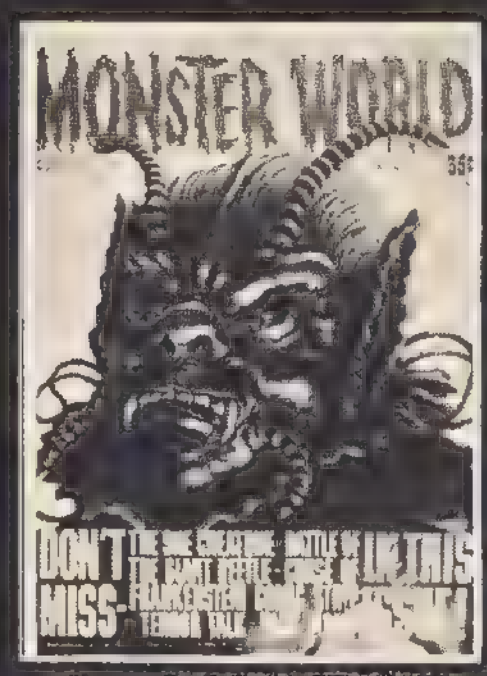

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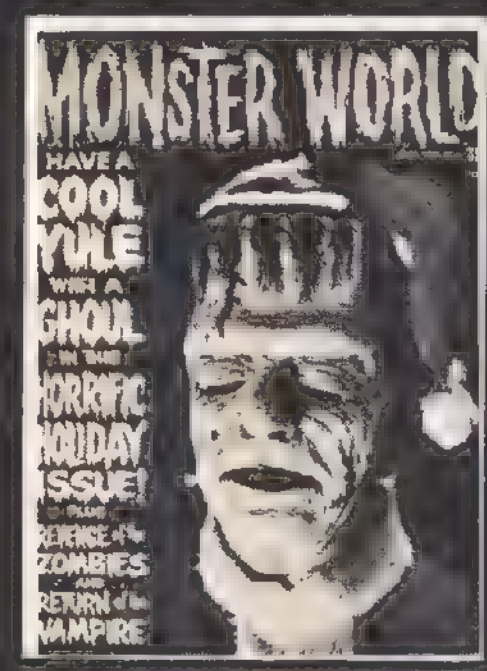

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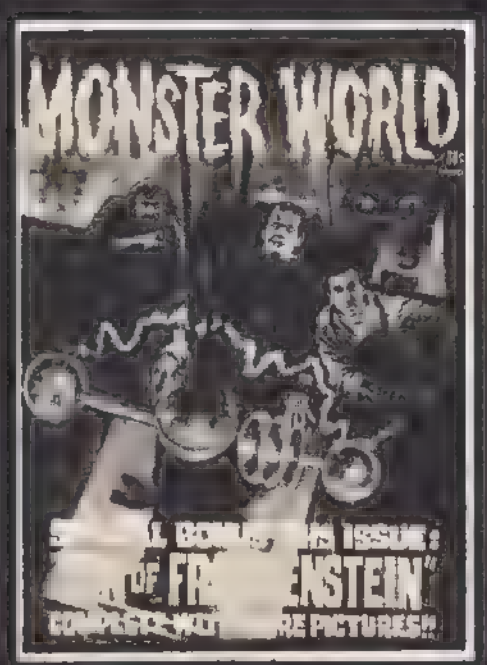

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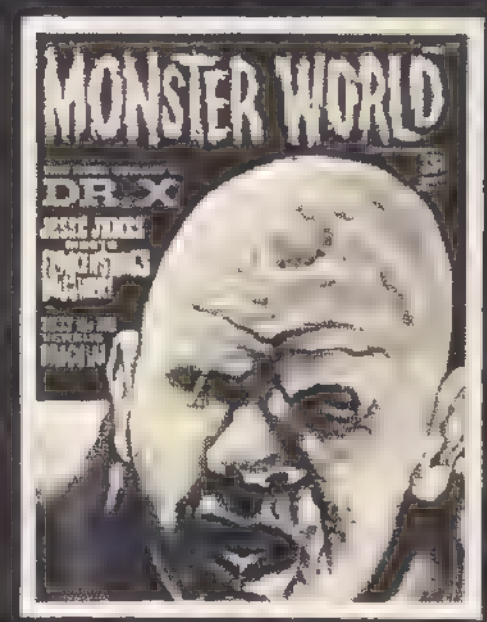

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THE BLACK CAT

STRIKES AGAIN

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T.H.E. Cat & I

T for The.
H for Horrible.
E for Evil.
Cat!

Even as I write these words destined for distant America, while sitting here in my den in safe solid Old England my pet Timmy is lurking somewhere in the house.

At any moment He is likely to enter the room and stare accusingly at me thru the slits of his yellow eyes. Accusingly, for while the hammering on my ancient typewriter never ceases to intrigue him, at the same time I feel he definitely resents that I am not out & about in the kitchen, preparing him some tasty morsel.

Bela's favorite feline fable was
"The 9 Story Cat; or, Cat o' 9 Tales".
(Scene from Universal's BLACK CAT, 1941.)

"I'm very disappointed in you, Vince," says Peter. "I told you hanging around with girls would be the death of you."

Do we take our cats too much for granted? Do we underestimate their subtle powers? Do they understand much more about us than we dare imagine?

The author of the film 4-SIDED TRIANGLE asked such questions in his chilling fantasy "The Smile of the Sphinx". In ancient Egypt cats were worshipped as gods and for many centuries have been credited with supernatural powers & instincts. Gaze into their inscrutable eyes, with their hidden, almost sinister depths, and wonder . . . Are cats as innocent as they appear? Is it possible they are an ancient & alien race with intellects far greater than ours? Temple suggests in his "Sphinx" that; "They are parasites of the human race and move amongst us as unsuspected spies, hearing, seeing everything we do, yet never betraying themselves in any way. The world's best actors! They know their role by heart—they've practiced it for thousands of years and never made a slip."

One superstitition declares that the souls of the dead sometimes pass into the bodies of cats. Could the eyes of Another regard us when our pet looks upon us? Those who love cats never fully understand them. Those who fear them—! Yes, there are some people who cannot bear to be anywhere near a cat. Such a man was Bela Lusogi.

the color of a cat

Cats have been an enigma, an ever-nagging mystery to mankind thruout the ages, whether they have been ginger . . . or tabby . . . or mousey-gray . . . or—

Black.

We've heard of hatching a brainstorm but this is sheer skull-diggery!

THE BLACK CAT of '34 that did that to Bela.

And now, in the USA, THE BLACK CAT has struck again—in a new shock film from the makers of STING OF DEATH and THE DEATH CURSE OF TARTU. The new BLACK CAT, "based on Edgar Allan Poe's immortal classic", shows a young husband given a black cat by his wife as a present on their first wedding anniversary. But the unfortunate man hated his father and becomes obsessed with the irrational notion that *the cat is an evil reincarnation of his dead parent!*

And the fearful thought drives him to the verge of madness.

His nerves became taut, his temper short.

He takes to drinking in order to drown his illogical fear.

And then, one night, in a drunken rage, his nerves disintegrate! He searches out the cat . . . corners the snarling, spitting, terrified creature . . . and *cuts out one of its eyes!*

Eventually he puts the poor suffering animal out of its misery by electrocuting it.

things look black

But that is not the end of it.

After treatment in a mental institute, the husband tries to make amends for his horrible actions by taking another black cat home as a pet. But the nightmare starts in his mind again . . . and builds & builds! This time it is not the cat but his *wife* that he kills! With a hatchet!

When he walls up the corpse of his wife in the cellar, he does not notice that the cat follows its dead mistress into the holy tomb. follows its dead mistress into the unholy tomb. And it is the cry of the cat that ultimately betrays his ghastly crime to the police!

Mad with fear, he flees for his life. Eluding the law enforcers, he escapes to his car and speeds off for safety. But—In his path in the road there suddenly appears—

A cat!

Black!

He swerves . . . and crashes to his death!

This modern adaptation follows the original Poe tale very closely in spirit—in fact, far more closely than many other screen versions of the theme. It is the latest in a long line of imaginative pictures stretching clear back to the silent days of 1914 when, in THE AVENGING CONSCIENCE, the story of "The Black Cat" was incorporated with "The Conquering Worm", "The Tell-Tale Heart" and other Poe works.

the black cat of Germany and the cat of Lugosi

In 1933, in Germany, Paul (THE GOLEM) Wegener starred in THE LIVING DEAD, a 3-part horror film featuring "The Black Cat" together with Poe's "Dr. Tarr ' Prof. Feather" & "The Suicide Club" by Robert Louis Stevenson. The picture played in the United States and *FM's* editor has told me he saw it more

They called this pussycat "catty puss", because she spread so much gossip!

than once and "remembers it for its eerie qualities."

Then in 1934 Universal Pictures picked Poe's perpetually popular chill-tale to co-star Bela Lugosi & Boris Karloff. The new plot presented Lugosi as the victim of devil worshipper & arch villain Karloff, who had stolen Lugosi's wife & daughter years before. The wife's remains are now preserved in Karloff's weird mansion and the wronged Lugosi, in a non-villainous role, returns for revenge. In England the film was mutilated by the touchy censors of the 30s, making the cat angle vague, but the suggestion was meant to be that the spirit of Lugosi's dead wife had passed into a cat, and that, when Lugosi unwittingly killed the cat out of a mortal dread of the animal, he stroyed his wife anew.

In the '34 BLACK CAT Lugosi did have a terrible revenge on Karloff but at no time did the cat reveal a murderer and, despite the credits, Poe's plot was barely used. Karloff smiled when he & I recalled the film together in recent times, and he commented: "The things we did to Poe when he wasn't around to defend himself—!"

the cat comes back

Less than 10 years after its first version Universal decided another BLACK CAT was in order. It must have revived memories for Lugosi for he was also cast in this version, as a heavily-mustached Spaniard who was the sinister keeper of an eccentric old lady's innumerable cats in a spooky mansion. No less than 4 scriptwriters went to work to "help out Poe" on this one, and this time there was a *slightly* stronger link with the original in that a black cat did give away the killer's secret in the last reel. In the cast of this whodunnit was Basil Rathbone.

Feline terror stalked again at Universal when THE CAT CREEPS was creepily produced in '46. Again using the Poe idea of a vengeful cat, and resurrecting the reincarnation suggestions of 1934, the picture had the spirit of a murdered old lady passing into the body of her cat. And again the villain was brought to justice either by genuine supernatural means or psychological fear, the choice being left to the audience.

While cats continued, and doubtless will

David Manners (young leading man of DRACULA) comes between Karloff & Lugosi in THE VANISHING BODY (re-release title of '34 BLACK CAT).

The Black Cat is tomb much for her in THE TOMB OF LIGEIA.

continue, to represent a variety of moods in films, from the macabre to the merely amusing, it was some years before a genuine Poe-like cat reappeared on the screen. Then, in 1961, it started all over again—in England—with THE SHADOW OF THE CAT. Once more an old lady's cat witnessed her murder, and, thru weird psychological pressure, drove the killer & his helpers to their deaths . . . then led the police to the burial place of the victim.

In Hollywood, around the same time, AIP was also thinking in terms of "The Black Cat" and so the story emerged yet again as a segment of the Poe trilogy, TALES OF TERROR. In this one the cat betrayed the foul deed of Peter Lorre in entombing Vincent Price & his wife alive.

When, in '64, AIP decided to make another Poe pic in England, the scripter borrowed "The Black Cat" and merged it into THE TOMB OF LIGEIA: the jealous wife of Vincent Price returns from the grave in the form of a black cat which terrorizes his new bride. The creature dominates the haunting events and the origin of the relentlessly evil animal is unmistakeable.

Obviously, black cats are here to stay. Excuse me, mine just called me to dinner. I don't like to keep him waiting.

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Speaking of Harryhausen, another appeal to Hammer. I hope they can have him make a color remake of KING KONG. I'm sure it would be great. Possible cast members would be Cushing, Lee & Oliver Reed.

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG
(Address Lacking)

Prizes this issue to **HARRY LONG** of Lebanon, Pa.; **ROBT. LYLE DZINA**, Orange, Calif.; and **STEVE UTLEY**, Smyrna, Tenn.

This issue DEDICATED to MR. & MRS. WILLIAM W. BOND, the Genies from Eugene, Ore., for extraordinary help to the Editor.

No Relation to James

BILL BOND

STRONG STUFF

In one of your future issues could you put in a story on 12 STRONGEST MONSTERS and 5 MOST HORRIFYING MONSTERS? Could you answer these few questions: What are the things on Godzilla's back called? **(Actually, we don't know—and we don't plan to get near enuf to Big G. to ask him. We suggest the word "spines". Anybody in the audience have any better ideas?)** Who is the tallest monster? **(Could be Ghidrah.)** Strongest monster? **(About all we can say is he's probably Japanese.)** Most horrifying monster? **(Readers would have to vote on that.)** What monster wrecked and killed most people in one movie? **(The figures have not been published yet.)**

Great fotos in #44 and I liked "Karloff W ithout M ake-up".

KEITH HESSE
Winter Park, Fla.

TIRED BLOOD

I'm sick & tired of hearing people say horror movies aren't good any more (since 1950). They don't realize that there are a lot more horror pix being made today so naturally there are more bad ones, especially from small & independent producers & companies. I dare say all the following were as good as (in some cases better than) most of the older movies and in years to come will take their places right up there with them. Pictures like THEM!, THE THING, HOUSE OF WAX, CURSE OF FRANKENSTEIN, HORROR OF DRACULA, KISS OF THE VAMPIRE, DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL, INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS, BLACK SUNDAY, BEAST FROM 20,000 FATHOMS, CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF, THE MUMMY remake, DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS, PLAGUE OF THE

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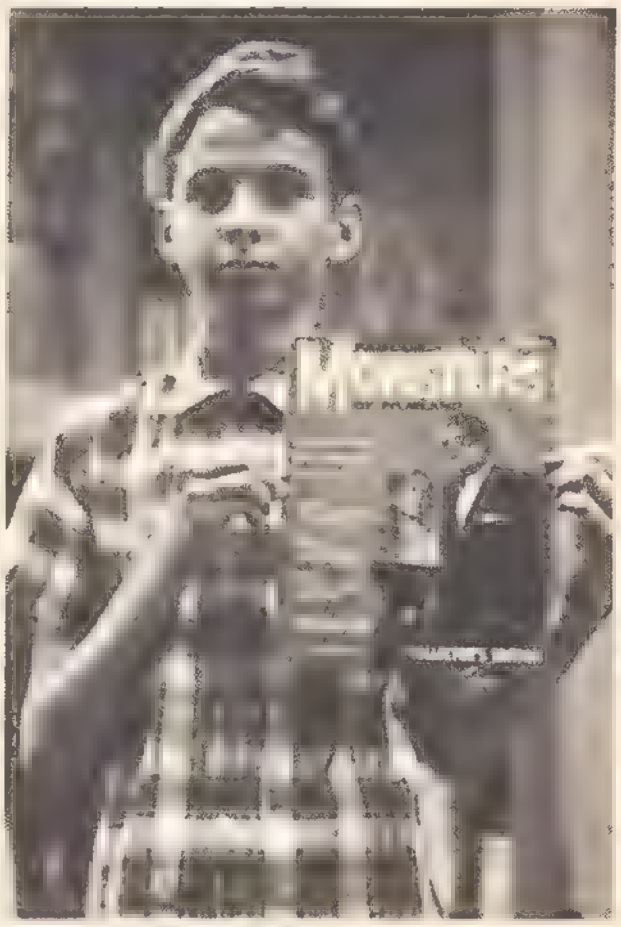

Creature Fan Mark Conklin

TOOTH OR CONSEQUENCES

In a picture you showed of the monster from THE REPTILE the mouth was open, fangs were showing and in the back of the mouth you could easily see that this monster had paid a visit to the dentist for it had some of its teeth filled!!!!!!

BOBBY JOE SMITH
Guntersville, Ala.

You said a mouthful, Bobby!

BEWARE THE IRE OF A VAMP

I have composed a short poem. I hope you like it:

Vampires are a kind of being
Who suck the blood of persons
sleeping.

Is QUEEN OF BLOOD the same as PLANET OF THE VAMPIRES? **(No, QUEEN is a Curtis Harrington film with Basil Rathbone, Florence Marly & Forry Ackerman; PLANET, an Ib Melchior movie starring Barry Sullivan.)**

MICHELLE KEENAN
San Jose, Cal.

BEHIND THE HATE-BALL

I know you'll hate m e for saying this but I think Christopher Lee is a m uch better actor than Bela Lugosi ever was.

JOS. MAYERNIK

*Mr. Mayernik, we hereby award you the Purple Bat for monsterrific bravery. Lugosi fans will fight feverishly to defend their favorite and in order to save your life we are not publishing the fact that you live in New York City and can be found at . . .

!! STOP PRESS !!
RATHBONE GONE

Felled by a fatal heart attack at 75, BASIL RATHBONE is with us no more.

The great actor died suddenly in his own apartment in New York City on 21 July '67, ending an "endless" career in which he had appeared with Karloff, Lugosi, Chaney Jr., Lorre, Marly, Vampira, Price . . .

With all pages in this issue completed except for this letter column, Rathbone's death occurs at deadline time with no room left for a proper obituary.

A Memorial to Rathbone will be featured in FM #48.

MUSH ADO ABOUT—SOMETHING?

I hope you can fulfill my wish: I'd like to see the mushroom people from the movie REVOLT OF THE MUSHROOM PEOPLE.

MARSHALL KINWORTHY
Spencer, Iowa

*Sounds pretty revolting to us. Are you sure you aren't putting us on? Frankly, we never heard of REVOLT OF THE MUSHROOM PEOPLE, and if we did, it would probably put us off.

Wanted! More Readers Like

SVETLANA MAKAROVICH

EVINCES INTEREST IN PRICE

I have seen Vincent Price in many movies and I have seen article after article on them. But you have never mentioned a movie called STORY OF MANKIND in which Price is the devil, Satan. Why hasn't it been mentioned?

JEFF LAMBERTH
Pensacola, Fla.

*We haven't time, Jeff, to check thru thousands of pages to prove a point, but we'll bet you a Pepsi-Cola to Pensacola that one of our readers will remember reading some reference to THE STORY OF MANKIND in a past issue and write in about it. Watch future Fang Mails for the information. With a cast including Peter Lorre, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, John Carradine, Don Megowan & Henry Daniell, we hardly see how we could have avoided mentioning it in 47 issues of FM and 10 of MONSTER WORLD.

LEE FAN

I would like to know where Christopher Lee lives and is he married?

NANCY CLEMENTS
(Address Missing)

*He lives in the same block as Ray Harryhausen, has a beautiful Scandinavian wife who was formerly a fashion model & actress, and they have a darling little girl. O, yes; the Lees live in London.

LUGOSI FAN

I would like to know where Bela Lugosi is buried and how old he was when he died.

JAMES DIOGUARDI
New Brighton, Pa.

*Lugosi died 2 mos. before his 74th birthday and is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, Los Angeles.

SPINOUT

You really make the name "monsters" sound good. You really have class. I love your mag, only my father gets mad because I spin webs all around the room.

JERRY MICHAUD
Alameda/CA 94501

*There is an old saying, "Out of sight, out of mind." Try spinning your webs on the ceiling, then they will be out of sight and your father will be out of his mind.

HOUSE GHAST

Your HOUSE OF DRACULA filmbook was the best article I have ever read in your magazine!

IRA ARONIN
E. Brunswick, N.J.

CHASED TO HIS ROOM; FEELING BRADLEY

The day I got the Decca album "An Evening with Boris Karloff and His Friends" (which is just great) my mother wouldn't let me play it in the diningroom (because she just hates it) **(your mother hates her own diningroom?)** so I had to move the record player into my room. The record is 25 minutes of great revivals of the old monster movies. I think Lugosi plays his greatest roles in these pictures: SON OF FRANKENSTEIN, DRACULA, THE BLACK CAT and THE RAVEN. As Ygor in SON OF FRANKENSTEIN he played the best role. FJA's foreword on the back of the album was great too. Boris Karloff said 2 puns tho on side 2.

BRADLEY CHASE
Auburn, N.Y.

*About those puns: we tend to side with Karloff. Obviously he didn't want to Boris!

REEL MONSTERS

Whatever happened to the real monsters? All that are created today are mutants, people with acid-eaten faces, and maniac killers. I wish someone would create a monster (I mean a real monster) that could be another famous monster.

Reading **FM** is my favorite pastime but some of your stories are too long. I don't have that much time. The pix are xlnt.

MIKE WAUGH
Mooresville, N.C.

*An unusual complaint. Are there any others of you in favor of our running shorter articles & longer fotos?

CELLY QUESTION

When was Frankenstein released?

JAMES BREWER
Findlay, Ohio 45840

*As far as we know he was forbidden to Mary and put in a Prison Shelley for generation after generation until such a time as he would stop scaring people.

Oh—you mean when was the story of his life released in film form? Dec. 1931.

SOUND QUESTION

Did Lon Chaney Sr. play in a movie with sound in it?

MIKE ALEXANDER
Zebulon, Ga.

*Yes, he spoke in the remake of THE UNHOLY 3.

THUMB FUN

I noticed the Ackermonster mentioned on the cover of an issue of **Cavalier** but I'm not yet of age to thumb thru this type of magazine so I thought I'd call it to the attention of older fans interested in reading more about **FM**'s editor.

TOM PREHODA

*Thanx, Tom. The article appeared in the June '67 issue. The magazine is meant for grown-ups but there's nothing in the interview itself that is unfit for anyone of any age.

AN OSCAR FOR SHERI!

In response to Jay Sheridan's suggestion in #45 that BORIS KARLOFF should get a special ACADEMY AWARD, Sheri McAdams went to work and got 302 signatures on her petition! If you personally haven't sent in your request, please do so at once to: ACADEMY PRESIDENT, Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences, 9038 Melrose, Los Angeles, Calif. 90046. And don't fail to support our other great Karloff cause, a letter to The Manager, GRAUMAN's CHINESE THEATER, 6927 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, Calif. 90028, requesting a forecourt ceremony for Boris with his autograph & footprints in the cement.

CONTRIBUTIONS submitted for publication should include Name & Address on each Letter & Drawing. The editor would LIKE to hear from YOU and to see a FOTO of each writer (please PRINT your name on back of picture). Write to:

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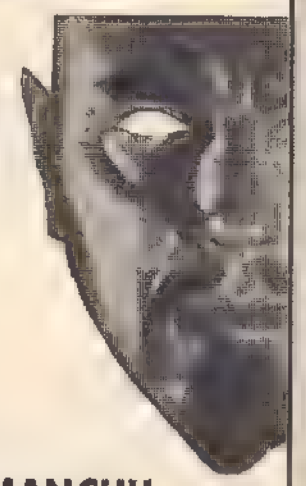
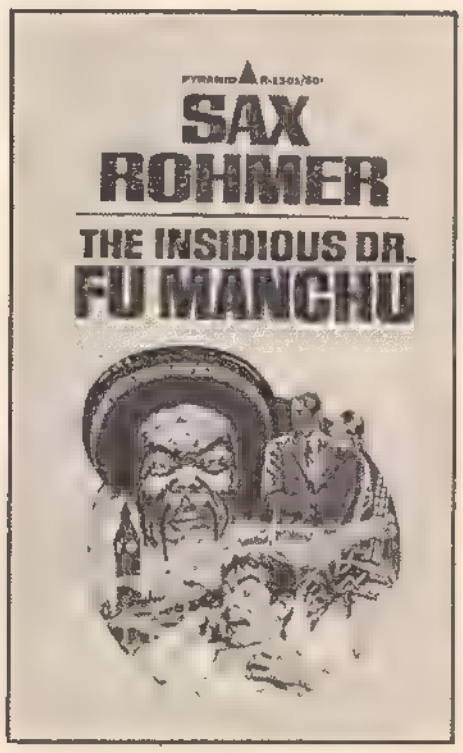


FU-MANCHU ...keeper of the arsenal of crime
FU-MANCHU ...evil genius of science
FU-MANCHU ...creator of the living dead

THE INSIDIOUS DOCTOR

Death was his servant . . . world mastery his goal. Death in every form — death of the body, mind and soul. Only one man knew the full danger of Fu-Manchu's plan — Denis Nayland Smith. On him alone depended the face of Western civilization.



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In her hands was the power to stop the world's deadliest plague. With an army of giant insects — and an eerily brilliant council of dead men, Fu-Manchu plots destruction and turmoil for the Western world.

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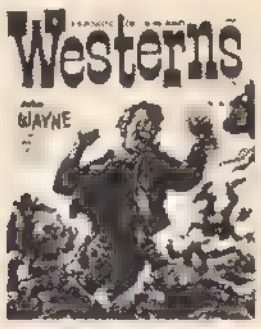

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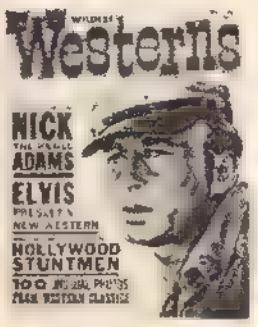

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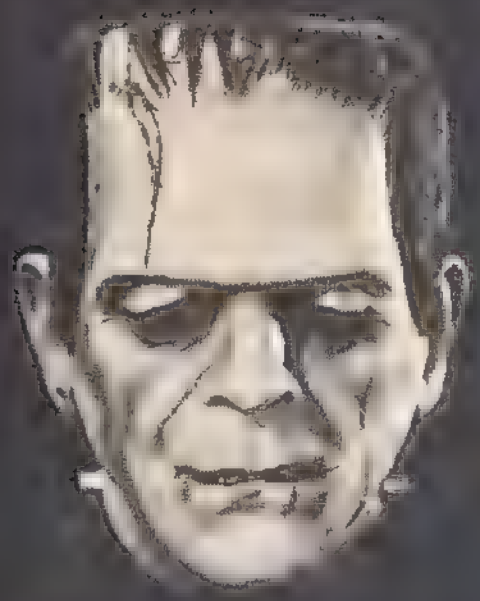

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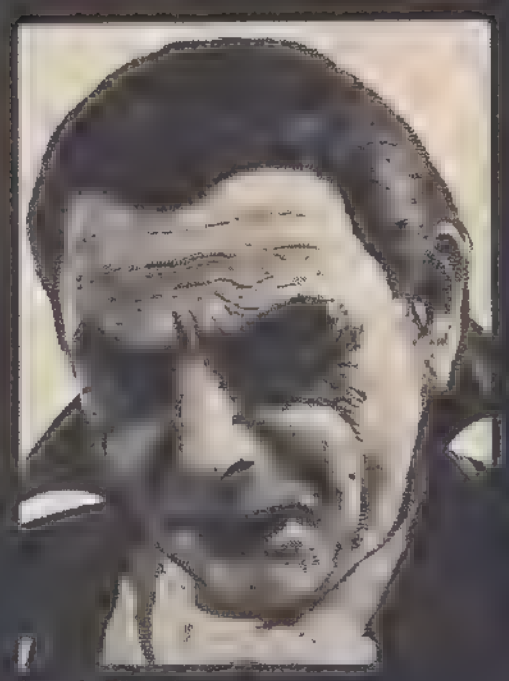

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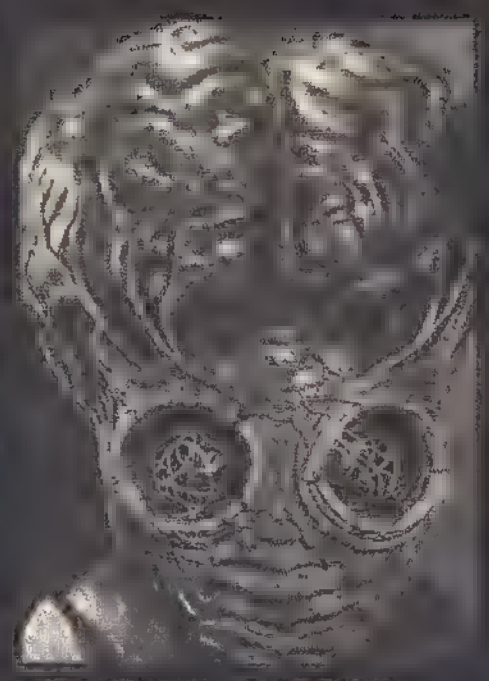

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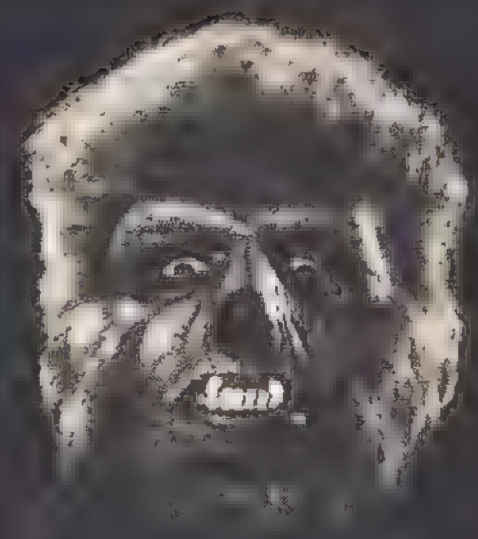

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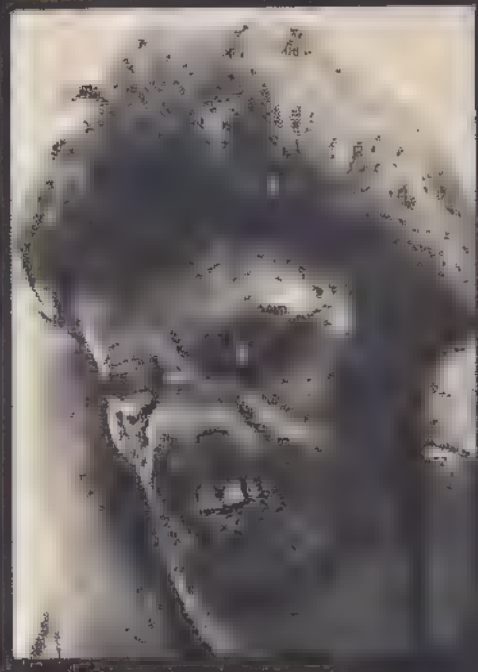

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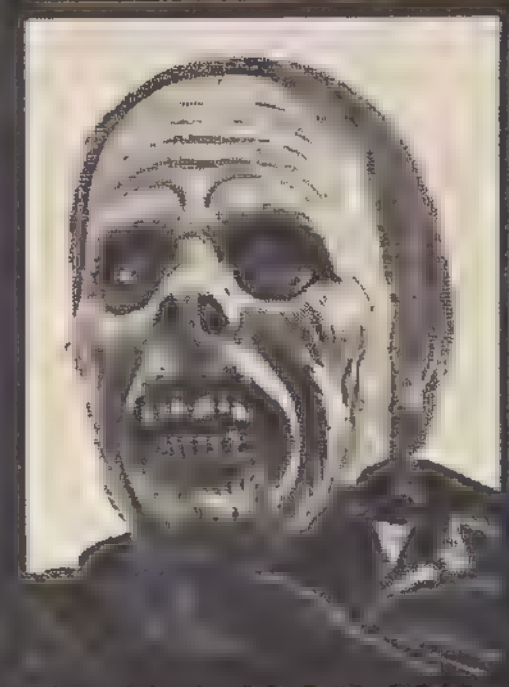

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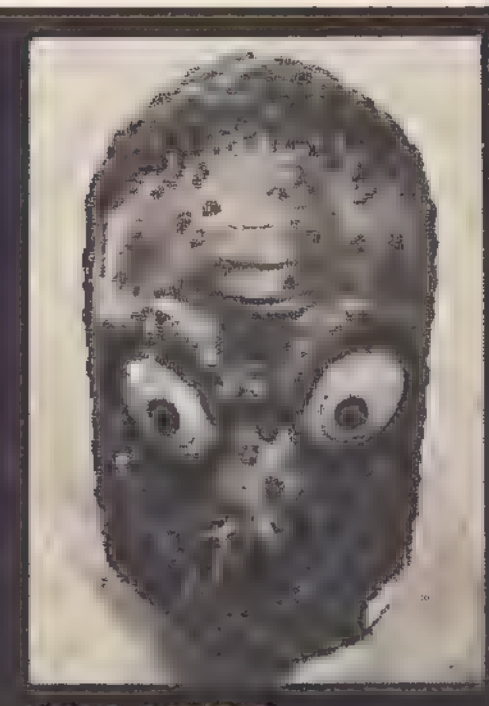

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A MAD DOCTOR sets out to create the most fearsome monster ever born. He winds up with a TEENAGE FRANKENSTEIN combining a boy's body, a monster's mind, a creature's soul. Does the doctor live to regret his fiendish accomplishment? This gruesome movie, a real thriller, gives you the answer. 8mm, 200 feet, $5.95.

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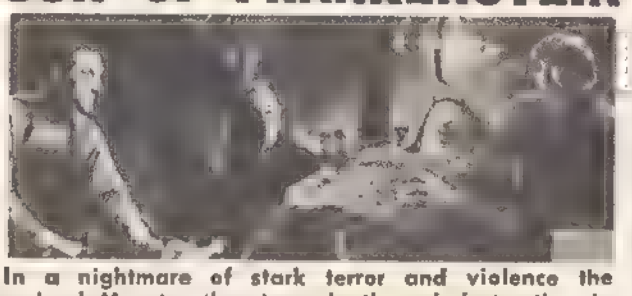
THE BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN

FEARFUL FRANKENSTEIN monster Boris Karloff wants to marry Elsa Lanchester. Nothing stops this gruesome two-some . . . not even the fact she is 7 feet tall, is wrapped in gharish gauze . . . and has ragged stitches around her neck. A classic film every collector should own! 8mm, 160 feet, $5.75.

SON OF FRANKENSTEIN



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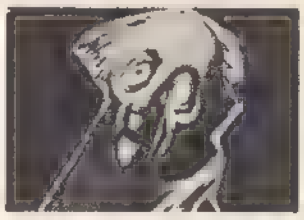

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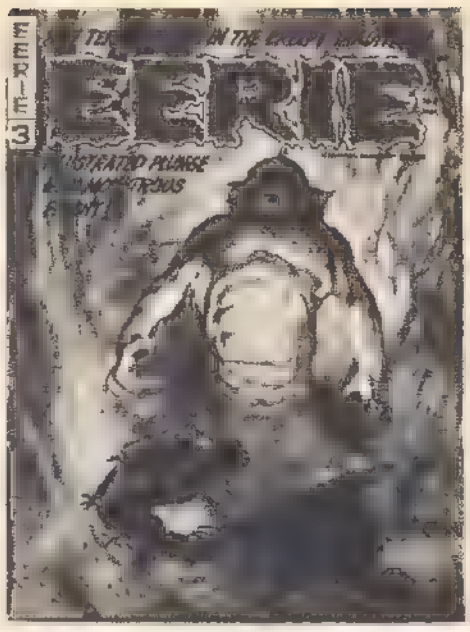

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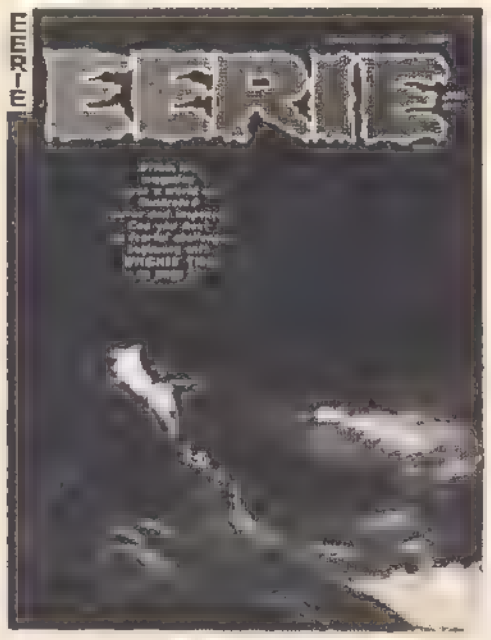

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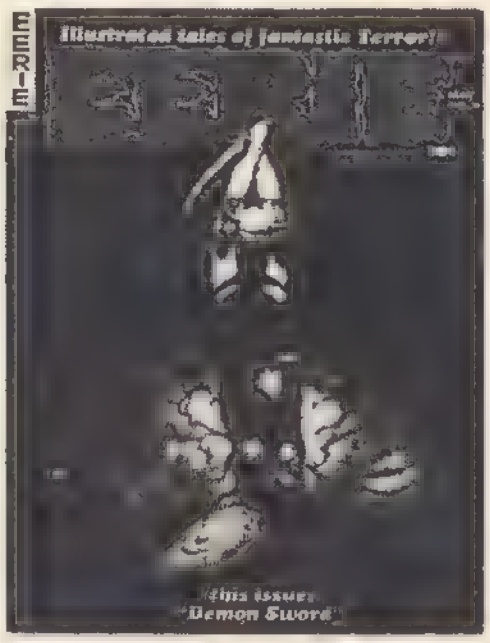

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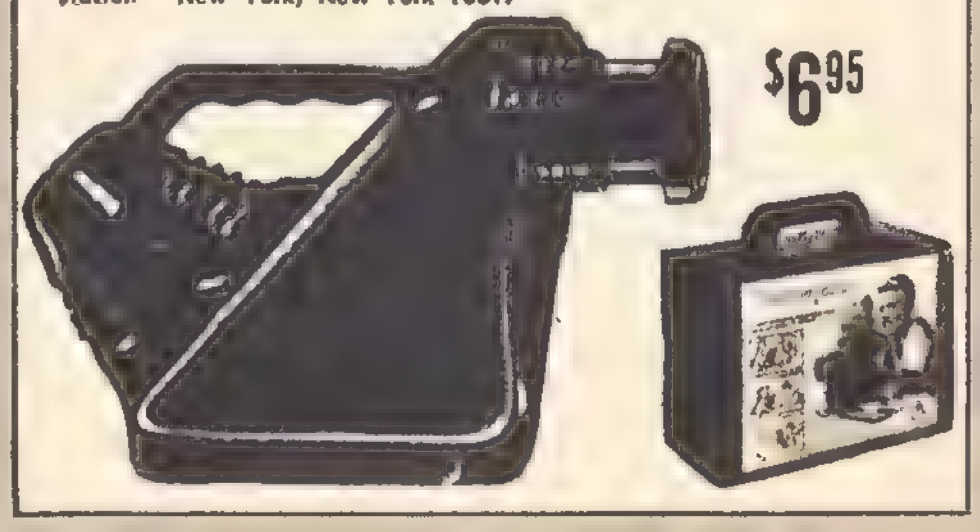

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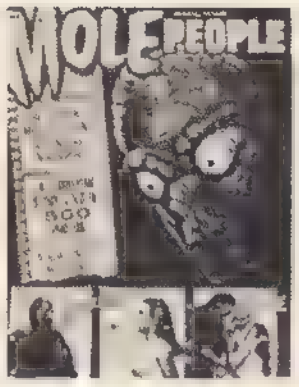

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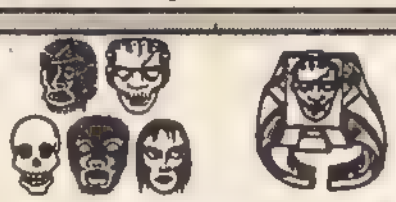

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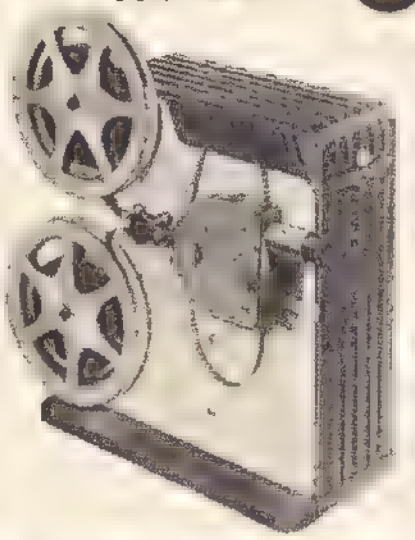

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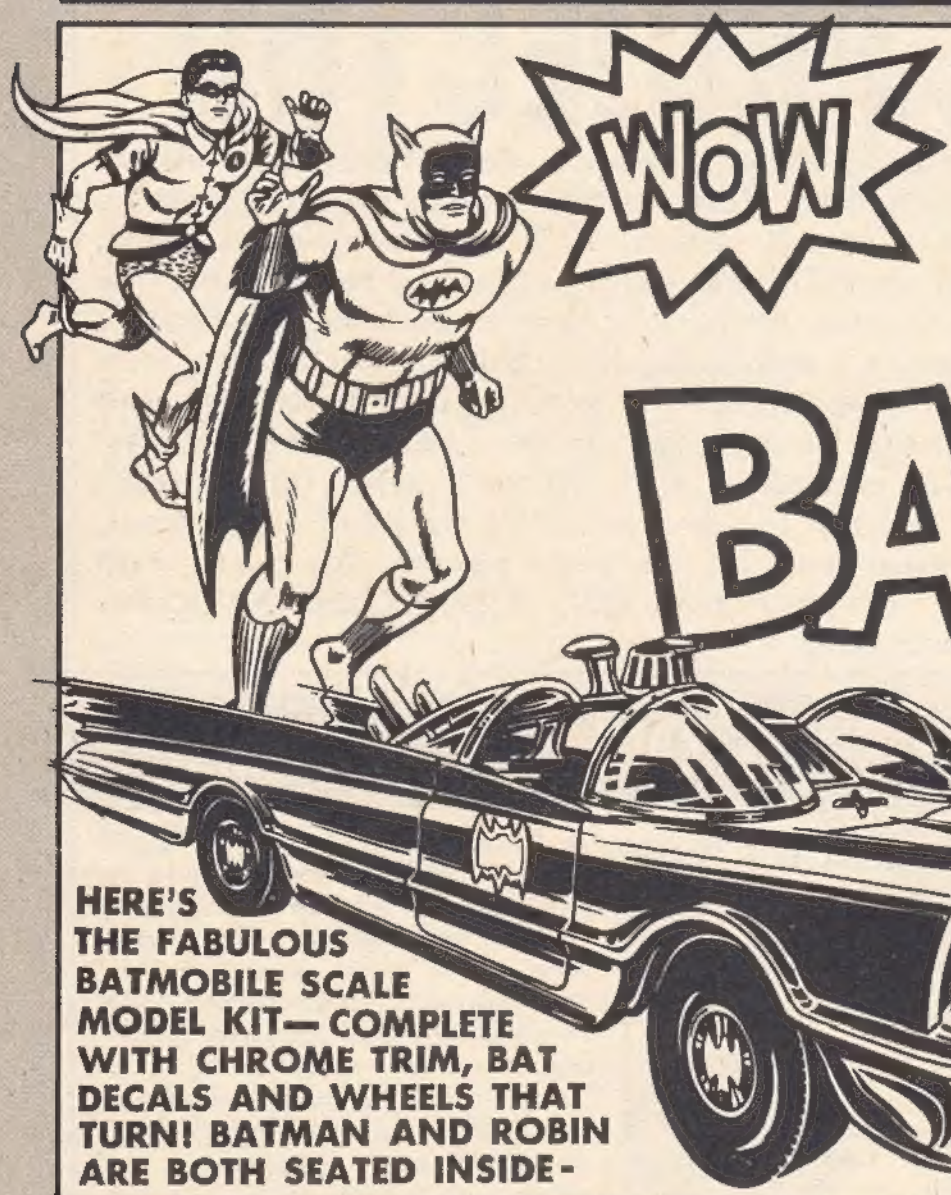

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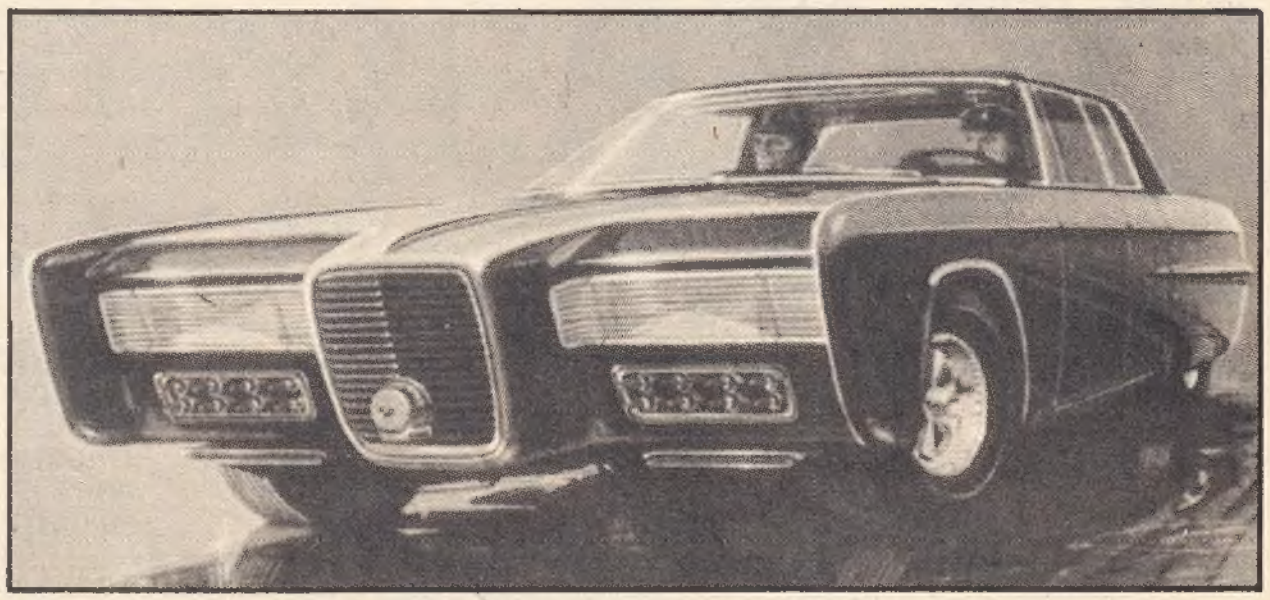

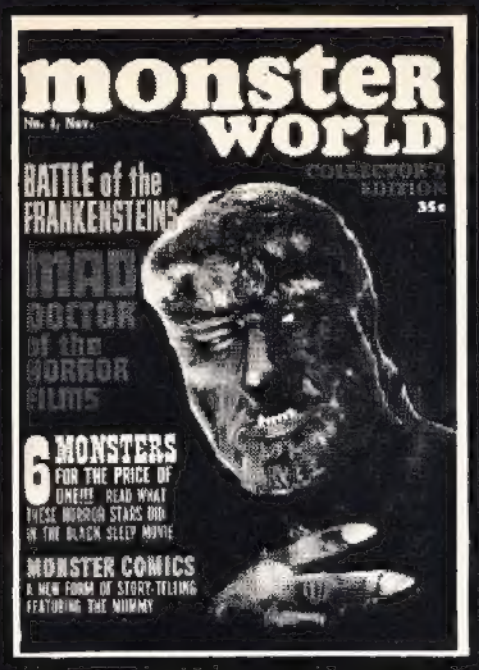

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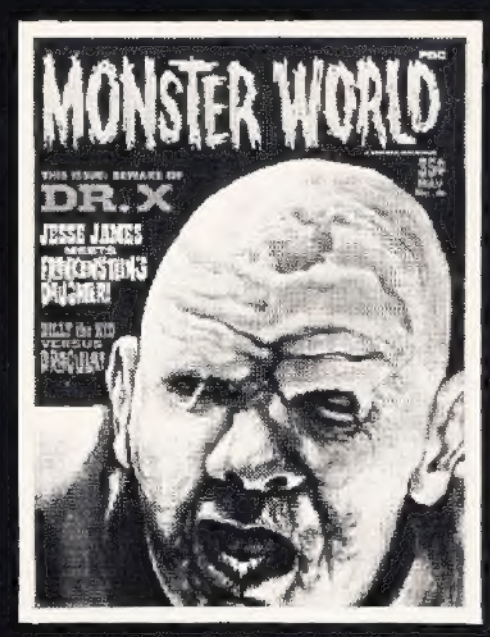

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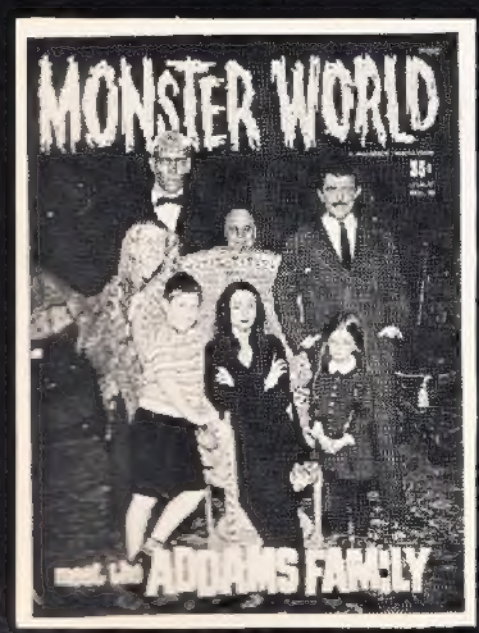

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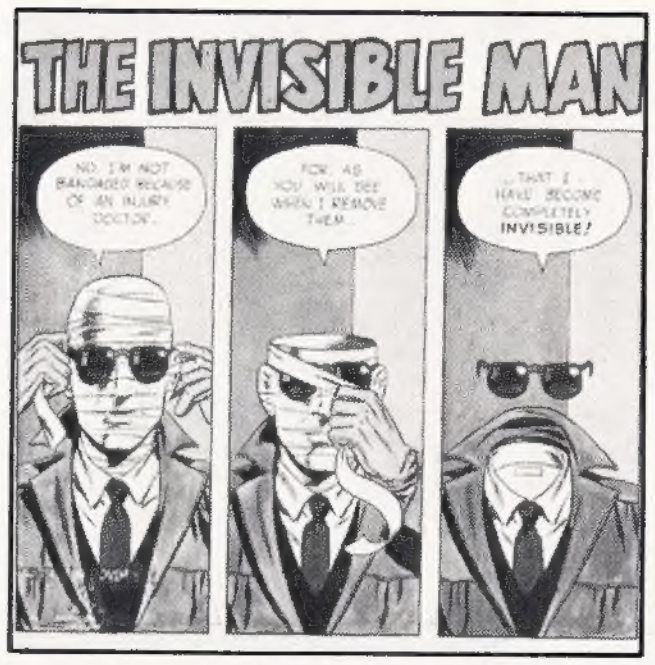

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